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THE GAME LAWS.

THERE is a "land question" in agitation just now in England as well as in Ireland; and in each country the question is raised by the alleged tendency of some—perhaps most—landowners to grasp at undue advantages: to reap where they have not sowed, and to gather where they have not sowed. "Uncertainty of tenure" and "confiscation of improvements" are the things that trouble the minds of the tenantry of Ireland; and "over-preservation of game" and consequent destruction—that is, confiscation—of crops, make the lives of English tenant-farmers a burden to them. Essentially, then, the grievances of the cultivators of the soil in England and Ireland are the same; and the same, too—alleged landlord greed—is the source from which they spring. It is true that they differ somewhat in form; but intrinsically they are identical, and must be treated on the same principle: by applying a rule of even-handed justice, that is, to all concerned. The just rights of the tenant must be secured, while the fair privileges of the landlord are respected. How these ends are to be attained as regards the Irish land question, we shall not now concern ourselves to inquire. The subject is understood to be engaging the attention of Ministers, and in their hands we shall, for our part, leave it for the present. But the English phase of the land question, if not quite so urgent for settlement as its counterpart in Ireland, is not less important, and stands equally in need of ventilation and discussion.

Many persons are in the habit of averring that the operation of the Game Laws and the preservation of game are matters appertaining entirely to landlords and tenants, and ought to be governed by mutual agreements between the owners and the cultivators of the soil, and, being no affair of the general community, ought not to be meddled with by the Legislature. But this argument contains several fallacies. In the first place, the Legislature has meddled in the matter, and, at the instigation of the land-owning class, has provided facilities for the preservation of game by passing enactments for its protection. In the next place, what affects one class of the community injuriously, affects the whole community injuriously; and is, therefore, a matter for the consideration of Parliament, which is presumed to legislate, not for classes, but for the entire nation. And in the third place, the public generally are directly affected by the operation of the Game Laws; first, by the obstruction they cause to the production of food materials, and next, by being saddled with the cost of protecting a fictitious description of property, and of punishing those who are tempted to interfere illegally with it. In short, out of the game-law question there arise these three other

questions:—First, a financial question as between landlord and tenant, as touching the destruction by the game claimed by the former of crops for the privilege of raising which the latter has already paid rent; second, an economic question, as between landlords and the rest of the community, whose supply of food is materially diminished by the contributions levied upon it by the wild creatures fostered and protected by these laws; and, third, a social question, also between landlords and the community at

carried to a much greater degree than in others, and farmers suffer, of course, in proportion; but everywhere the cry of the farmer is that his crops are injured to an undue extent by swarms of wild creatures which the law calls game, and from every quarter there comes a demand for an abatement of the evil, which, moreover, is every day becoming more grievous, from causes which we shall presently mention. Even tenants on estates on which preserving is either altogether abandoned or only moderately enforced do not escape

suffering, because they have to feed the game of neighbouring landlords, if not of their own. For instance, it was stated before a Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to inquire into this subject a few years ago, that on the property of Sir Harry Verney, in Buckinghamshire, game-preserving had been altogether abandoned from a conviction of its injurious tendency. But, unfortunately, the Duke of Buckingham, whose property adjoins that of Sir Harry, did not follow the latter's example; and the consequence was that Sir Harry's tenants were noway benefited by their landlord's self-denial; for, while they paid one rent to him, they paid another—to the extent, as was stated, of a fourth of the entire crop—to his Grace in the shape of the food consumed and destroyed by the latter's game. And this, we are assured, is a common case.

We said above that the evils resulting from game-preserving were becoming more aggravated, and the reason is not far to seek. Until within a few years no man was allowed to deal with, or even have in his possession, any article of game unless he were the owner of a certain extent of land—that is, of a freehold estate of £100 per annum. By the Act of 1 and 2 William IV., c. 32, passed in 1832, this prohibition was repealed, and licenses to sell as well as to kill game were issued. The consequences were that a traffic in game immediately sprang up, preserving became profitable, and was much more extensively practised. Landlords obtained double rents for their land: first from the

tenants, for the privilege of cultivating, and next for the game fed upon it, the right to kill which they either let to others or exercised themselves and sold the produce to the dealers. This, we hold, was a gross piece of injustice, which no system of private agreement could remedy, because the stock of game one year was no criterion of its extent the next, the passion for preserving, like every other passion, continually growing by that it fed on. In other words, the landlord's increasing profits from game continually stimulated his desire to preserve, and, by increasing his stock, of adding to his gains. The result is that "over preservation" is now all but universally admitted, even men like Lord



HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA.

large, touching the process of criminal-making which the Game Laws unquestionably tend to promote. On each of these three points we propose, as opportunities arise, to offer some remarks.

Among tenant-farmers there is no difference of opinion as to the injury game-preserving inflicts upon them. They are all agreed that they suffer from this practice. The only subjects on which divergence of opinion exists are as to the extent of the mischief and the way in which the evil may be remedied, or at least mitigated. And recent discussions in the farmers' parliaments—the Chambers of Agriculture—show that they are fast becoming of one mind even on these points. In some districts and on some estates preserving is



Berners confessing that some check upon the practice is needed. It is vain, however, to talk, as landowners are beginning to do (in despair, we suspect, of being able to continue the existing system, and on the principle of throwing a sop to Cerberus) of "moderate preservation;" for who is to decide in such a case, what is moderation and what is excess? That which is moderation in one man's view, may be—and generally is—excess in that of another; and we have no doubt that what landlords would deem moderation in game-preserving would always be found to be very decided excess by tenants.

The mere feeding of the game, however, onerous as that is, is not the only evil to which tenants are made amenable by landlords who are rigid preservers. They are subjected to all sorts of restrictions and annoyances in the cultivation of their farms, and are denied the free use of the fields for which they pay rent; nay, they are converted into conservators of the very creatures whose existence is their bane and curse. Game-preserving landlords are in the habit of inserting clauses in agreements with their tenants binding the latter to protect the eggs and young of game; thus devolving on them the office of keepers, and—adding insult to injury—rendering them aiders and abettors in the propagation of pests from whose depredations they most immediately and severely suffer. They are further debarred the free use of their farms by being forbidden to turn cattle upon their stubbles after harvest lest the game should be unduly disturbed, and by having their fields studded over with bushes to afford shelter for the vermin. Then, the redundancy of game tempts crowds of sportsmen to engage in its destruction; the landlord lets the shooting over the very land he has already leased for cultivation; the tenant's crops are trodden down, his fences are broken, his stock are permitted to stray; and, after being wronged by having to feed the game, he is further wronged by the destruction caused by those engaged in hunting it. In every way, therefore, game-preserving is an injury to the tenant-farmer; and, in the words of Mr. W. S. Phillippo, of Barney, Norfolk, who has written some able pamphlets on this and kindred subjects, "the injustice of binding tenant-farmers down to the preservation of creatures whose subsistence is derived from their expended resources, is so monstrous, so barefaced, so irreconcilable with the principles of common honesty, that nothing but the most intense selfishness on the part of the landlord class and the most abject serfdom on that of the occupiers of their land, can perpetuate the existence of the system for another quarter of a century." It is satisfactory to know that the "abject serfdom" deprecated by Mr. Phillippo is beginning to be deemed intolerable by farmers, who, as the resolutions passed at recent meetings of Chambers of Agriculture show, are becoming animated by a determination to rid themselves of the incubus under which they suffer, and to demand the abolition of a system that robs them of a large measure of the legitimate fruits of their industry. We heartily wish them success in their efforts, and shall be glad to lend them, from time to time, what aid we can in the good work.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

OUR readers, we doubt not, will be pleased to have a portrait of the Queen placed before them, and recent events in the city of London furnish an appropriate occasion of doing so of which we gladly avail ourselves. Her Majesty appeared last Saturday to be in excellent health, and has expressed herself entirely satisfied with the arrangements made for her reception in the City on the occasion of opening the new Bridge at Blackfriars and the Holborn Valley Viaduct. The Queen, who was born in May, 1819, has now worn the crown of Great Britain for thirty-two years, having succeeded her uncle, William IV., in 1837; and we are sure there is but one wish regarding her in the hearts of her subjects, and that is, that she may long be spared to reign over, and go in and out amongst, a contented, prosperous, and loyal people.

THE PENNY READINGS LIFE-BOAT.—A fine new self-righting life-boat, 33 ft. long, has been purchased with the proceeds, amounting to £500, from penny readings in different parts of the kingdom. The boat is to be stationed at Wells, on the Norfolk coast, under the management of the National Life-Boat Institution. It is to be publicly launched at its station on the 12th inst., when the Countess of Leicester will name the boat. To Mr. E. B. Adams, surgeon, of Bungay, is due the great credit and perseverance of organising and collecting the Penny Readings Life-Boat Fund. It should be mentioned that the Great Eastern Railway Company has readily granted the life-boat a free conveyance over that line to Wells.

FAMINE FEVER IN WHITECHAPEL.—A conference has just been held between a committee of the Whitechapel Board of Works and the medical officers and guardians of the union on the subject of relapsing or famine fever, reported to be spreading in the parish, and to which the attention of the board was directed a short time back by Dr. Simon, of the Privy Council. The decision came to was that at present additional accommodation for the reception of fever patients is unnecessary; but, at the same time, authority was given to all the medical officers to furnish extra nourishment to patients when they consider it requisite. It was also decided that, in the event of disease spreading to any great extent, a suitable building shall be provided. The medical officer of the parish, Dr. Liddle, reports thirty-nine deaths from typhus, typhoid, and relapsing fevers during the last three weeks.

STATUE OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN.—A statue of Abraham Lincoln, in Prospect Park, New York, was unveiled on Oct. 21. The statue was erected by means of a dollar-subscription fund raised by citizens, without regard to party connection. The statue is of bronze, about 9 ft. high, and represents the figure of the late President standing, with the folds of a cloak draped about him. His left hand is extended, and holds a manuscript. The head is uncovered. The figure stands upon a base of Scotch granite, and faces the west. On the sides of the pedestal are various emblems and inscriptions. On the east and west wreaths inclosing the letters "U. S. A." and "U. S. N.," on the south an eagle holding a shield, in the centre of which is a female holding an axe and supported by a bundle of rods, with the motto, "Een draught maekt Maght;" on the north is an eagle with a broken shackle in his talons. The sculptor is Mr. H. K. Brown, and he himself unveiled the statue in the presence of at least 15,000 persons.

A RAILWAY BATTLE.—On Monday afternoon an extraordinary scene occurred on the new Midland Extension from Cudworth to Barnsley, which has been constructed to join the main line. The branch has been opened for goods traffic for some weeks, but the inhabitants understood that the reason why it was not opened for passenger traffic was owing to a misunderstanding between the Midland and the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Companies. This was said to have been got over, and the line was to be opened for passenger traffic. A number of men belonging to the Midland Company arrived at Barnsley on Monday morning, and proceeded to adjust the points between the two lines. One pair of the points had been nearly completed when about 150 men belonging to the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Company, under the charge of Mr. Bradley, the superintendent of the line, arrived by special train from Manchester, and at once proceeded to disconnect or pull up the connecting points, a goods-train having been previously placed on the other line in order to prevent the points being connected. These strange proceedings were witnessed by a number of people.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

M. Henri Rochefort arrived in Paris last Saturday morning, and in the evening attended a public meeting at La Chapelle. The crowd was so great that he had to enter the building by the window. In the course of the brief speech which he made, M. Rochefort said he should merely take the oath of allegiance to the Empire in order to overthrow it for a Republic. Upon hearing this the commissary of police interfered, and a good deal of disorder ensued. In entering France from Belgium M. Rochefort was arrested at the frontier, but, upon the circumstance being made known by telegraph to the Emperor, was at once set at liberty by his Majesty's orders. A safe conduct was at the same time accorded to M. Rochefort for the period of the elections. His election for the first circumscription is considered certain.

M. Ledru Rollin, in answer to the invitation of a Democratic and Socialist committee, has agreed to come forward as a candidate for the fourth circumscription of Paris, without taking the oath of allegiance to the Empire. He says that this is a grave determination, but that he has fully considered the responsibility he incurs. He adds that he regards the oath to the Empire as a danger, and thinks that to take it would be to forward Parliamentaryism, which he describes as the rule of caste and aristocratic privilege, and the opponent of democracy. M. Ledru Rollin explains that he refuses to take the oath to the Empire now just as in 1848 he refused to drink the health of Louis Philippe at Lille, and he calls upon the electors to trust to his experience, believing as he does that events will justify the course he is adopting. He moreover thinks that if 100,000 electors enter a protest against the oath by voting for him, they cannot be said to abstain from political action.

The Minister of Finance has recommended that a gold coin of the value of twenty-five francs, corresponding with our English sovereign, should be issued by the French mint, and the Emperor Napoleon has approved of the proposal.

There have been three condemnations in Paris for continuing public meetings after those meetings had been declared dissolved by the police. The punishment in each case was a fortnight's imprisonment and 300 francs fine.

The Archbishop of Paris has addressed a pastoral to the clergy of his diocese announcing his departure for Rome to be present at the Oecumenical Council, explaining the utility of that assembly and refuting errors which have been disseminated on the subject. His Grace says—"Notwithstanding the imperfections which may be discovered in the relations between the Church and the State, those relations must be upheld in the form in which they have been settled by the Concordat. The patriotism of the Bishops must be satisfied with wise compromises which are sufficient guarantees for all essential rights and interests." The pastoral further repels as absurd the rumour that the majority of the Bishops, stifling the free action of their colleagues, will vote by acclamation the dogma of the personal infallibility of the Pope.

BELGIUM.

The Belgian Parliament was opened on Tuesday, but without any speech from the throne, the Government considering a speech unnecessary, as the elections for the Chamber are approaching, and the Session will be limited.

ITALY.

The illness of the King, which has assumed so grave an aspect as to cause serious alarm, has now greatly abated, and his Majesty is pronounced to be out of danger. The Florence *Nazione*, in speaking of the illness of the King, says it does not exaggerate when it affirms that the whole population, without distinction of class, is occupied with this mournful occurrence as with a fact in which each and all are personally interested. The country feels and knows, it adds, that Victor Emmanuel is more than a King. His name is associated with all the troubles, with all the glory, and with all the hopes of Italian regeneration, and the Liberal party knows that if it lost him it would lose not only a Prince, but a man worthy by his personal qualities and his works to be its leader.

SPAIN.

In the Cortes, on Monday, General Prim explained the retirement of Admiral Topete, and the efforts he had made unsuccessfully to avoid it. Topete spoke, giving his objections to the Duke of Genoa as the reason. He declared he should continue to assist Prim to complete the revolutionary work. Both spoke feelingly; Prim made no declaration of policy. The Minister for the Colonies, in the course of some remarks, declared that Spain was determined to crush the insurrection in Cuba, notwithstanding every obstacle. In Tuesday's sitting of the Cortes the Minister of Finance announced that it was not his intention to reintroduce the capitation tax.

Some important Carlist disorders have occurred in a village of the province of Alava, and a manifesto from ex-Queen Isabella has been published in Madrid.

PRUSSIA.

In the Lower House of the Diet, on the 5th inst., a resolution proposed by Herr Virchow on the subject of disarmament was lost by 215 votes against 99. A resolution moved by Herren Windhorst and Meppen, asking the Government to use endeavours to reduce the expenditure for the military administration of the North German Confederacy, was rejected, as was also the motion of Herr Lasker that the House should pass an order of the day accompanied by a declaration of opinion on the question.

AUSTRIA.

The Emperor of Austria has arrived in Constantinople, and has received a truly regal reception from the Sultan.

The insurrection in Dalmatia appears to be on the eve of suppression. Several encounters have taken place, in which the troops were victorious, and the district of Zuppa has surrendered to the authorities. The troops, after having rested for a few days, will commence operations against the Crioschianians. During several of the recent severe engagements the Montenegrins occupied their own frontier, and thus partially prevented the insurgents from crossing.

In Monday's sitting of the Lower House of the Hungarian Diet Baron Eötvös, in reply to M. Synony, stated that the Government had taken no steps to enable the troops engaged in suppressing the Dalmatian insurrection to pass through Turkish territory, and it was hoped that there would be no necessity to move in the matter. The debate upon the bank question has begun.

RUSSIA.

The Emperor received the son of the Emir of Bokhara and the other members of the Bokhara mission on the 5th inst. His Majesty said he hoped that henceforth friendly relations would be maintained and increased between Russia and Bokhara, and added that Russia had not been the cause of the rupture between the two countries. Upon the friendly assurances of the Emir of Bokhara being communicated to the Emperor, his Majesty said he viewed the fact of the Emir's son being sent to St. Petersburg as a pledge of their sincerity.

TURKEY.

It is stated that the British, French, and Austrian Ambassadors in Constantinople have opened negotiations with the Porte with the view of freeing merchant-vessels from the onerous and disadvantageous regulations which have been in force since 1866 at the entrance and passage of the Dardanelles and Bosphorus. It is added that the Turkish Government appears disposed to give a favourable consideration to the representations of the above-mentioned Powers.

According to a Constantinople despatch, the Turco-Persian difficulty is finally settled, and the English and Russian Ambassadors have just delivered to the Porte, attested by their signatures, an elaborately-executed map of the Turco-Persian border, upon which

the British and Russian Commissioners have been working for some years past.

THE UNITED STATES.

Senor Roberts, the Spanish Minister, has addressed a note to Mr. Fish, the Secretary of State, reminding him of the principles laid down by Mr. Seward and Mr. Adams in their controversies with Earl Russell, Lord Stanley, and Earl Clarendon, and asking how the United States can stultify themselves by recognising the belligerency of the Cubans after protesting against the recognition of the belligerency of the Southern Confederacy by Great Britain and France. Mr. Fish has replied that the Government of the United States has as yet no intention of recognising Cuban belligerency. He, moreover, maintains the doctrine of his predecessor regarding the British and French recognition of the belligerent rights of the Southern Confederacy, and he deprecates the course taken by the Cubans in the United States, where they have on several occasions violated the neutrality laws.

Mr. Fish and the Hon. Mr. John Rose are framing a new Canadian Reciprocity Treaty.

The Congressional Committee which has for some time past been investigating the causes of the depression in American shipping, and its inability to compete with foreign vessels, has determined to recommend remedies to the next Session of Congress. These are the remission of all duties on materials entering into the construction of ships, the grant of permission for foreign ships to be purchased and admitted to American registers, and the grant of subsidies to steam-ship lines, both foreign and those plying between American ports. This last measure was urged by the shipowners who attended the committee as indispensable to the growth of our mercantile steam marine; but Congress, in the present national fit of economy, will scarcely grant any more steam-ship subsidies. Nor is it probable that Congress, which is so strongly "protective," will take off the duties on shipbuilding materials.

The reports from the Southern cotton shipping ports show that the receipts of cotton this year are much in excess of last year. From Sept. 1 to Oct. 22, 1869, the total receipts at all the Southern ports have been 356,784 bales, as compared with 250,728 bales during the corresponding period last year—an increase, for 1869, of 106,056 bales. The weekly receipts continue to be largely in excess of last year, and this swells the aggregate. Thus, during the last week reported (that ending Oct. 22) the receipts were 82,395 bales, while the corresponding week last year showed but 55,763 bales—an increase for the week this year of 26,632 bales. The bulk of the increase is at Atlantic ports, Charleston, Savannah, Norfolk, &c.; New Orleans, Mobile, and the Gulf ports exhibiting but slight increase. The planters everywhere, however, are reported to show more than the usual anxiety to get their crops to market. The exports for the year are not keeping pace with the receipts of the crop, and over 160,000 bales were reported in stock at the various ports on Oct. 22. Great Britain takes the greater part of the export, having purchased 23,000 bales of the 35,800 exported last week. The total exports just now, however, are much heavier than during the corresponding time last year, more than twice the number of bales being shipped during the same length of time this year compared with last year.

The entire tobacco crop of the United States for 1869 is estimated at 275,000 hogsheads, of which three fourths will be consumed in Europe. Cincinnati, Louisville, and Richmond are the leading tobacco marts; and the bulk of the crop is grown in Virginia, Kentucky, and Missouri. Tobacco cultivation was greatly interfered with by the war, but it is now resuming its normal condition.

FREE TRADE AND RECIPROCITY.—A committee has been formed for the purpose of promoting an extensive circulation of Mr. Noble's pamphlet on this question, lately published by Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. In acknowledging a copy Mr. Bright wrote:—"I think it excellent in every respect. If all the world could read it, how much good it might effect!" It is the intention of the committee to employ the funds intrusted to them, not merely in extending the circulation in this country, but in distributing it as widely as possible in foreign countries and in our colonial possessions. Subscriptions for this purpose may be forwarded to Mr. B. Moore, 25 Hart-street, Bloomsbury, London, W.C.; or to Mr. C. H. Elt, 1, Noel-street, Islington, London, N.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE FENIAN PRISONERS.—The members of the English Amnesty Committee, in the view of the possible determination of Mr. Gladstone to keep the political prisoners in confinement, have, it is stated, resolved upon advising the people of Ireland and the Irish resident in the United Kingdom to abstain from the use of certain excisable articles, selecting tobacco as the chief article of consumption by the Irish people, whether in their own country, or in England, Wales, or Scotland. It appears they include in their monitor the English sympathisers with the sufferers, not with the cause, of the men in prison. The committee hope by this to effect such a diminution in the revenue as will convince Mr. Lowe, whom they consider the obstacle in the Cabinet to the release of the Fenians, that the case is a serious one for his department. The Amnesty Committee are about to issue the following order to the Irish people of the United Kingdom:—"On and after the — day, 1869, no tobacco in any form is to be consumed until such date as that on which all the political prisoners shall be released from custody. Issued and approved by the Amnesty Committee."

THE CORPORATION OF DONCASTER AND DR. VAUGHAN.—The Corporation of Doncaster are about to present to Dr. Vaughan, the late Vicar of that town and now Master of the Temple, an address of a very appropriate character, contained in a handsome volume, bound in dark green Levant morocco, inlaid with purple and light brown, and tastefully decorated with gold ornamentation. A large centre panel contains the impaled arms of Dr. and Mrs. Vaughan, embossed in proper heraldic colours. The volume consists of six pages—rich ivory-like tablets—of vellum. The first page contains an exterior view of the splendid parish church in which Dr. Vaughan ministered for nearly nine years, and the second page a companion picture of the interior of that edifice. Both are correctly and exquisitely painted in tempera, as highly finished miniatures. On the third page is the dedication; and introduced into the illumination are the arms of the Corporation of Doncaster, those of the see of York, Harrow School, and Trinity College, Cambridge. The next and succeeding leaves are occupied with the address itself—a brief but earnest expression of public feeling—which, on the concluding page, contains the autograph signatures, "C. W. Hatfield, Mayor; and W. E. Shirley, Town Clerk;" and also the common seal of the Corporation sunk into the vellum. The address is engrossed in church text, and the margins of each page are tastefully ornamented with appropriate emblematic devices of rich and brilliant colouring, relieved with punctured gold. The style of illumination is of the later Celtic or Anglo-Saxon period of art, and is exceedingly beautiful throughout. The volume is inclosed in a very handsome case of polished oak, surmounted by the crest and monogram of Dr. and Mrs. Vaughan, richly carved in massive gilt. The whole constitutes an elaborate work of art, and is a fitting and graceful gift to the eminent Doctor.

PROPOSED NEW STREET FROM CHARING-CROSS TO TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD.—At a recent meeting of the vestry of the parish of St. Anne, Westminster, a plan for a proposed new street from Charing-cross to Tottenham-court-road, which had been suggested by Mr. Henry Bidgwood, the St. James's representative at the Metropolitan Board of Works, was taken into consideration, and the vestry unanimously resolved to support the proposed improvement by every means in its power. It appeared from the statements which were made that as long ago as 1838 a Select Committee of the House of Commons reported that it was desirable to make a direct communication between the north and south parts of the metropolis, and that the Select Committee assumed Charing-cross and the east end of Oxford-street (Tottenham-court-road) to be the points between which such direct communication should be made, but that since that time little or nothing had been done towards carrying out the recommendation, and that the difficulties of going from Oxford-street to Charing-cross, or directing anyone how to go there, were as great as ever. The proposed improvement, if carried out, would go through a very inferior class of property, and would include in its length the roadways on the east side of Leicester-square and the west sides of the new National Gallery and Trafalgar-square, and would be the greatest possible convenience to the inhabitants of St. James's, St. Margaret's, and St. John's, Westminster, and the parishes lying to the south of Charing-cross and to the north of Tottenham-court-road. It would, perhaps, be of the greatest use to the inhabitants of the parish of St. James, who now, in order to go to Tottenham-court-road, have either to wind through the narrow and circuitous streets lying between Regent-street and Tottenham-court-road, or to go all round by Regent-street and Oxford-street. Another great advantage of the proposed improvement would be that access by its means would be obtained to the Thames Embankment by a sweep round Charing-cross, and that advantage could be taken of its formation to make in connection therewith a railway between the north and south of the metropolis, the necessity for which was admitted when Parliament, some years ago, passed an Act allowing such a railway to be made. The estimate for this great metropolitan improvement was stated to be about half a million.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY AND DR. LIVINGSTONE.

THE opening meeting of the session of the Royal Geographical Society was held, on Monday evening, in the theatre of the Royal Institution, Albemarle-street—Sir R. Murchison, the president, in the chair. There was a crowded and fashionable attendance. The Count de Paris, the Duke of Wellington, Sir Bartle Frere, and Mr. Crawford, M.P., were amongst those present.

The president, in his address, said—"The two objects which most occupied our thoughts when the previous session closed, and on which I dwell in my last anniversary address, are now, I rejoice to say, in the way of being satisfactorily carried out. Our illustrious associate, Livingstone, whose life has been despaired of by the multitude, but of whose reappearance among us, as you know, I never doubted, will, I trust, bring us ere long the first account of a region of Southern Africa never previously visited by a European; and thus, by actual observation, will have set at rest all theoretical speculations respecting the hydrography of that vast portion of Africa lying to the north of those territories watered by the Zambesi which he had previously made his own. I therefore joyfully hope that at no very distant day we shall hear from his own lips the description of his travels during the three years which have elapsed since he entered South-Eastern Africa on his last expedition. In his expected communications we shall doubtless be enlightened not only respecting the true configuration of the great Lake Tanganyika, first visited by Burton and Speke, but also as to the main watershed to the south of it which he has now traced. The facts, as communicated in one of his last letters to Dr. Kirk, from Lake Bangweulu, dated July 8, 1868, will be explained to you this evening. We now know that he had discovered a chain of lakes connected by rivers far to the south; and whether these waters, after feeding or flanking the great Lake Tanganyika, really constitute the ultimate sources of the Nile, as Livingstone supposes, can only be a conjecture so long as no traveller has observed the connection between the northern end of Tanganyika and the Lake Albert Nyanza of Baker, which is very far distant from the southern lakes of Livingstone. But I confidently hope that this point will be finally determined by Livingstone himself; as it appears from Dr. Kirk's information that he has touched at Ujiji, and must have there received the supplies, despatches, publications, and medicines which have so long been waiting for him. Should these South African waters, now laid open by Livingstone, flow into the Lake Albert Nyanza, the south-western extremities of which are as yet wholly unknown (though, we trust, to be soon defined by Baker), then, indeed, the great modern problem will have been solved, and we must go back to the old geography of Ptolemy, and acknowledge that he was right in placing the ultimate sources of the Nile very nearly in the same southern tract in which Livingstone has now found them. In this event it will also give me much pleasure, at our ensuing anniversary, to assign to Dr. Beke, Mr. Arrowsmith, and Mr. Findlay all the credit which is their due for their support, on theoretical grounds, of this great southerly extent of the Nile basin. In his wonderful labours Livingstone has not merely been the Christian missionary and geographical explorer. He was also accredited as her Majesty's Consul to all the native States in the interior. Such being the public mission with which the great traveller was intrusted, let us now confidently believe that her Majesty's Government will authorise, on his return, the grant of a suitable pension to the man whose labours have shed so much renown on Britain, and that our gracious Sovereign, who has, I know, taken the deepest interest in his career, will reward him with some appropriate token of her good will." The hon. Baronet referred to other subjects of geographical interest.

A long correspondence was then read by the secretary, chiefly of a geographical nature, describing the travels of Dr. Livingstone. The first was a note to Dr. Kirk from the Doctor himself, bearing date July 8, 1868, and written from near Lake Bangweulu. The following is an extract:—"I have had no news from anywhere for two years and upwards. The Arabs have all been overflowing in kindness. I borrow this paper from Mohammed Bozarib, for I am up here without any. . . . I have found what I believe to be the sources of the Nile between 10 deg. and 12 deg. south, or nearly in the position assigned to them by Ptolemy. It is not one source from a lake, but upwards of twenty of them. Lake Limba, which possibly is an arm of Tanganyika, has four rivers flowing into it. One I measured, and found it to be 294 ft., say 100 yards high, and waist deep, and flowing fast in September. . . . Taking these four rivers as one line of drainage (a fifth from Marenga must be added), then the Chambeze flows from the side into the centre of a great valley, and receives three streams as large as the Isis at Oxford, or Avon at Hamilton."

The next communication was a very full despatch from Dr. Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon, dated July, 1868, and sent from the same place as the note to Dr. Kirk. It was an interesting account of the great traveller's explorations, written in excellent spirits, and speaking hopefully of the result of his labours. It gave details of the general facts mentioned in the above quotation as to the sources of the Nile. The postscript to this despatch was:—"Always something new from Africa. A large tribe lives in underground houses, in Rua. Some excavations are said to be thirty miles long, and have running rills in them; a whole district can stand a siege in them. The writings therein, I have been told by some of the people, are on wings of animals."

Another communication was the following comment of Dr. Kirk, in a letter written from Zanzibar, Sept. 7, 1869, to Mr. C. Gonne, Secretary to the Government of Bombay:—"Sir,—The chief point of geographical interest in the present letter is Dr. Livingstone's statement that the sources of the Nile are to be found in the lakes and rivers that drain the great valley in which Chazembe is situated, and lying to the south of Tanganyika, between 10 deg. and 12 deg. of south latitude. The town of Chazembe, from which Dr. Livingstone's previous letters were dated, has been already visited and described by the Portuguese missions. It is situated on the shores of one of a chain of lakes and rivers that flow northwards. The Cazembe, having collected by many streams the waters of the northern slope of the damp elevated plains, flows to join Lake Bangweulu; this, again, is connected with Lake Moero by the Loapula, on whose banks the town of Chazembe is built. Moero is, in its turn, drained by the Luapula into another, named Mange; and here exploration ends. Natives have told Dr. Livingstone that Mange is an island-studded lake, from whose waters join the Lufira, a large river coming from the western side of the same great plain, whose eastern slope is drained by the Cazembe. This united stream enters the Tanganyika, and thence by the Loenda into Lake Chowembe; but Dr. Livingstone's informants were not unanimous, and some assert that the Lufira passed to the west of Tanganyika, and to the Lake Chowembe, which Dr. Livingstone thinks is the same as the Lake Nyanza of Sir Samuel Baker. In fact, the interest of the journey centres in the southern connections of the Lake Albert Nyanza, and Arab traders generally agree in thinking that a water communication does exist between that and the Tanganyika; but I have not met with any one who professes to have traced out this communication. From Arabs who visit Chazembe I learn that the lakes now described by Dr. Livingstone are of considerable size, varying from five to ten days' march in length; and, like Nyassa, Tanganyika, and the Lake Albert Nyanza, overhung by high mountain slopes, which open out in bays and valleys, or leave great plains which during the rainy season become flooded, so that caravans march for days through water knee deep, seeking for higher ground on which to pass the night. The country abounds with large game and domestic cattle, while the climate is spoken of as not unhealthy, and is certainly a contrast to the Zanzibar coast, if we may judge from the tanned, healthy travellers who return."

Sir Bartle Frere stated that he also had received a letter similar to the foregoing from Dr. Livingstone.

The president said he could not but congratulate the Royal Geo-

graphical Society upon these contributions to their knowledge of African exploration; and those who had stood Dr. Livingstone's friends had the gratification of feeling that his patience, courage, and perseverance entitled his labours to be ranked as heroism of the most perfect kind.

Captain Sherard Osborn said he was of opinion that if Dr. Livingstone lived—as God grant he might—he would meet Sir Samuel Baker working his way to the south.

The president said, in his mind the problem had been solved, and we should in a few months be giving Dr. Livingstone a reception such as had been seldom seen.

M. PREVOST PARADOL ON THE POLITICAL STATE OF FRANCE.

ON Tuesday night M. Prevost Paradol lectured to the members of the Edinburgh Philosophical Society on "The Political State of France." There was a large and brilliant audience.

M. Prevost Paradol, in his introductory remarks, said—"The political state of France, as regards its legal institutions, is not more steady than the state of the sky or of the sea. To describe the present political institutions of his country would be as useless and ungrateful a task as if he had enlarged upon the weather which was prevailing when he left Paris. Who knows (he said) if, in the very moment when I describe a quiet and regular state of things, a tempest will not break forth and give the lie to my words? Since the empire has sprung up again among us it has unceasingly remodelled its own constitution, and by the side of that continuous change exists the daily possibility of a violent and sweeping revolution. Therefore, instead of attempting to describe here that wavering and fickle aspect of our institutions and laws, I shall try to draw the less uncertain picture of the moral state which brings forth those very institutions and laws, and by which their unsteadiness is explained. The lecturer then proceeded to refer to the sudden and complete change effected by the French Revolution of '89, which, by one and the same magic stroke, destroyed the political state of France and overturned its society. But, while the new social order had proved immovable and above transformation, except by the slow course of nature, political change and destruction had been constant, leaving behind nothing yet but ruins. Revolution had become an idea so familiar to the French mind that the most conservative of Frenchmen almost unconsciously gave utterance, from time to time, to the most revolutionary doctrines. The lecturer then proceeded to consider how, amidst such perpetual unsteadiness, the present Government had lasted so long, and still stood with apparent solidity amidst rising agitation. This relative steadiness he ascribed to three facts, which were not observable under former Monarchical Governments. The first was that the Imperial Constitution was lawfully open to any modification indicated by the popular will—imperfectly enough, but yet with sufficient effect to remove in time serious subjects of complaint. The second was the increasing familiarity of the French people with universal suffrage, and of the power of numbers as intimated by a significant vote. The third was the exaggerated fear of Socialism, deeply felt by the middle and upper classes—a fear, no doubt, now comparatively visionary; but the lecturer remarked that an ungrounded fear is a fear still. Though fears of Socialism might be exaggerated, there was ample room to foresee some violent commotion in France if the life of the Emperor be long enough to allow him to reap the results of many faults. Personal government had been, so far, a necessity for the Emperor, but personal government has in itself an ever-working and never-failing cause of ruin. Parliamentary Government and responsible ministries were a safety-valve to a State, which personal government shut up, leaving one man facing perpetually the nation, while grievances which the best Government could not avoid accumulated and pressed every day more and more upon one head. The main idea, he said, of the liberal and enlightened part of the French people now is that the political reforms are wanted, not so much in the external forms and springs of government as in its internal working and administrative organisation. Centralisation—lately the tendency of almost all public men in France, was now entirely discredited. It was keenly felt that the Executive was too powerful in France, that its overwhelming privileges must be curtailed, liberty given to the borough, and the department freed from the arbitrary rule of the Prefects, or rather Pachas, which the First Napoleon had instituted, with a marvellous instinct for despotism; and that neighbouring departments should unite for the election of members for the Upper House. Without such reforms, provincial political life would be renewed, and the blood of intellectual France, now dangerously confluent to the head of the country, would circulate freely and healthily throughout the whole body politic. French justice also demanded serious reforms, its system of criminal justice being specially unfair and inquisitorial. The system of promoting Judges from place to place and from town to town by the unscrupulous hand of the Executive should also be swept away. It was a device of the first Napoleon, and tended to prostitute the sacred interests of justice to the ends of political despotism. The relations, too, between Church and State formed one of the greatest political problems of France, which must be solved, however difficult. The concordat of Napoleon I. had placed the material interest of the Catholic Church in France under the hand of the State; but, morally speaking, the French Church was more than ever under the command of the Pope, and when the two powers were at war the clergy did not know which to obey. The Liberal party in the French Church, and the best portion of the Liberal party out of it, desired a peaceful separation of Church and State upon truly liberal and equitable terms—a noble work, which he hoped the present generation would yet achieve.

THE FAULTY PILLARS IN THE HOLBORN VIADUCT.—At a special meeting of the improvement committee, held on Thursday afternoon, Mr. Haywood, the engineer for the Holborn Valley works, reported that, having that day made an examination of the bridge, he was of opinion that it is perfectly safe for public traffic; and, at his suggestion, the committee directed that three eminent engineers—viz., Mr. Eider, Mr. Edwin Clark, and Mr. T. Elliot Harrison—be requested to examine and report forthwith upon its condition.

SINGULAR AND FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On Monday a singular accident took place on the Midland Railway, near the lock-up at Belper. A party of platelayers were at work, and amongst them a man named Robert Stevens. The deceased and his brother stepped outside the rails of the up line, and stood under the cutting, to allow the 1.15 Manchester express from Derby to go past. At the moment the engine passed near to them one of the buffers and the spring attached thereto flew off like a cannon-ball, and struck the deceased upon the left shoulder, throwing him a distance of seven yards, and so mutilating him that he was scarcely recognisable. The buffer and spring, after fatally striking the deceased, ploughed up the ground for forty yards.

COTTAGE HOMES FOR THE LITTLE ONES.—Miss E. S. Soul, hon. secretary of the ladies' committee of the Alexandra Orphanage, at Hornsey-rose, writes to us as follows:—"I trust you will permit me to appeal, especially at the present time, to the public through your columns on behalf of the Alexandra Orphanage. We never wanted support more than at present, as we are destitute of funds and have no funded property to fall back upon, as have many of the old-established institutions. In the early part of the present year we entered upon the new premises, where there is present accommodation for 200 infants; but we have only ninety-six, so that there are vacancies for 104 infants. At the election, which will take place on the 18th inst., only six can be admitted. Our usual number has been twelve. We deeply regret our position, but cannot avoid it. The orphanage buildings consist of the domestic offices, dining-room, &c., and eight cottages, with a day-room, and dormitories for twenty-five infants in each; and we have yet to erect the schools, laundry, and the infants' hospital; but until the debt is for the most part liquidated these will not be proceeded with. The objects to be benefited are poor little fatherless and motherless infants. We take them from twelve months old; they are receiving the best infant-school training that can be given them, and are in every respect well cared for. I trust many of your benevolent readers will help us in our good work. There have been of late noble instances of princely benevolence, and we only hope some may be directed to the 'Cottage Homes for the Little Ones' at Hornsey-rose. Contributions addressed to my father, at 73, Cheapside, or to myself, will be thankfully received and acknowledged."

FREE TRADE AND RECIPROCITY.

ON Tuesday evening Mr. J. Noble, hon. secretary of the Financial Reform Union, addressed a considerable number of the artisan and labouring class, who assembled, on his invitation, at the Lambeth Baths, Westminster-road, on "Free Trade, Fair Trade, and Reciprocity;" and propounded the remedies which, in his view, were best calculated to meet the present depression of trade. Mr. Eli, member of the Metropolitan Board of Works, presided, and in a few brief remarks in reference to the importance of the subject, introduced Mr. Noble, who commenced by admitting that there was great depression of trade, and the question was whether it was caused by any policy which was deleterious to the interests of the working man. There were, however, some gratifying symptoms. The price of iron had risen twice lately, the rise last week having been as much as £1 a ton; and concurrently with this there was an advance in the rate of wages. There was also a slight improvement in the cotton districts. Well, was the cause of depression free trade? It was said that we must have reciprocity if we upheld free trade; but you could not have trade without reciprocity. Trade meant exchange—the giving one article we have for another we wanted more. Since 1860 there had been a great increase of wages and a great increase of trade. A writer in the *Standard* said that the increase of trade consisted in the increase of cotton manufactures. But what were the facts? In 1859 we imported cotton manufactures to the amount of £682,900, and exported to the extent of £38,000,700, whereas in 1867 we imported in value £1,185,000, and exported £52,800,000—the increase in imports being only about half a million, and in the exports £14,000,000. The exports to the Continent had increased since the French treaty 6 per cent, and the imports had decreased 2½ per cent. The distress in the cotton districts was owing to the increase of mills consequent upon the prosperity of the trade in 1859, 1860, and 1861, and the high price of cotton owing to the American war; but, notwithstanding, the decrease of consumption of raw cotton was in the three years of greatest depression only 190,000,000 lb. less than in the three years of the greatest prosperity. He then quoted the statistics of silk and other articles of manufacture, proving that under free trade and the French treaty the home manufacturer had benefited, and that it was the smuggler and the trader who dealt with him only who had suffered. It was true that in 1867 we took from France £4,800,000 worth of silk beyond what we took in 1859; but on the other hand we sent to France £5,700,000 worth of woollen, linen, and cotton goods, and machinery beyond what we sent in 1859, and he could not believe that, with the silk market at our own door, Englishmen had so degenerated that those engaged in that trade—so long the highest protected of any—could not, when left to itself, yet compete with the foreigner. It may be said what is the advantage of cheap wines and cheap silks to the working classes? But it must be obvious that if the upper and middle classes paid less for their wines and silks they would have so much more to spend in articles produced by the working classes, and it was proved beyond doubt that the articles so produced by the working classes went to pay for the silks and wines of France. There was an outcry in Rouen and other parts of France against the French treaty, as there was here; but was it likely that the wine-growers, the silk manufacturers, or even the peasant proprietors of France, who were now, for the first time, enjoying the luxuries of English blankets, English linens, English cottons, and English plates, which they could make hot—for what a hot plate was they had never known before—would consent to the abrogation of the treaty? He believed that all the duties dealt with by that treaty would have been abolished long before this had the treaty never been affirmed; but its object was to aid the Emperor of France, who had become a convert to free trade, to meet the objections of the French manufacturers. He next dealt with the argument that free trade had turned the balance of trade against this country, by showing that the imports of gold and the elements of profit had increased, and with regard to re-exports, the foreign produce that we imported and re-exported was paid for by the produce of the country. He next quoted the statistics of 1867 to show that the imports of raw material largely exceeded those of manufactured articles, while the exports consisted mainly of manufactured goods, and pointed out the comparative comfort of the working classes, even in the present exceptional period, with the terrible suffering to which they were periodically exposed during the existence of protective duties. The true remedy was to reduce the national expenditure, and consequently the rate of taxation. The French workman was taxed 17s. a head, the Belgian only 6s. 8d., while the British workman paid 32s. per head. He desired to see the taxation of the English workman reduced to the Belgian standard; there then would be no difficulty in competing with the foreign producer. To effect this he would have the taxpayer pay ready money—that was, in direct taxation, so many pounds, shillings, and pence per head. Then they must have a system of free education like that which existed in the northern States of America, which pauperised no man, and which was not doled out as charity, but accorded as a right paid for in the taxes. He advised them to memorialise the Chancellor of the Exchequer to give them tea, sugar, and coffee free of duty. The remedies he proposed were education, reduction of taxation, reduction of expenditure, and free trade not only here but in the colonies.

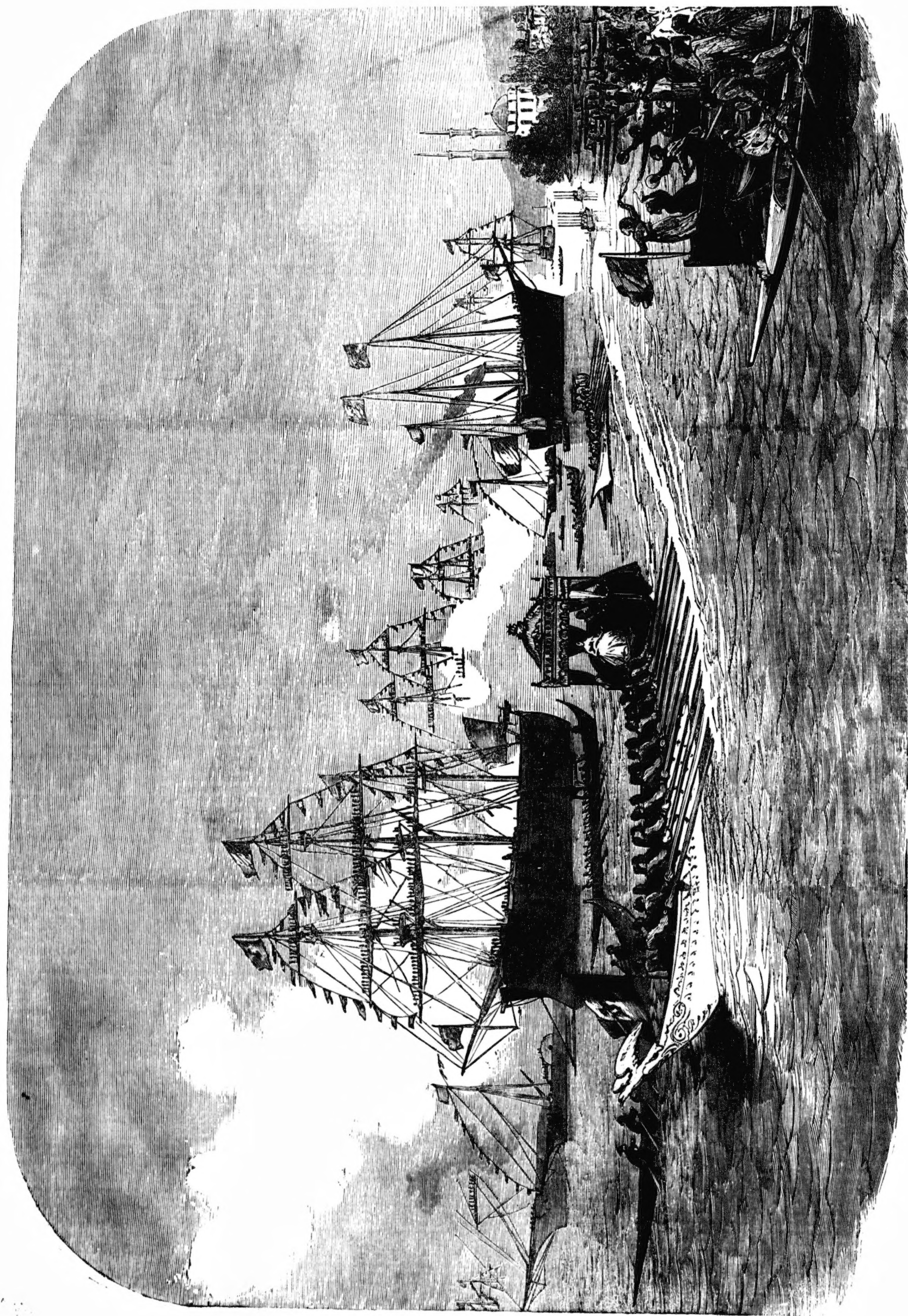
In the course of the discussion which followed, on invitation, considerable difference of opinion appeared to exist as to the influence of free trade on the rate of wages and the general well-being of the working classes, one speaker stating that large quantities of wool were sent here to be spun into yarn, and then returned to Germany or France to be made up into cloth which was brought to London and sold as west of England cloth at 2s. a yard below the price at which it could have been supplied from the west of England factories. The same speaker contested the accuracy of Mr. Noble's statistics as to the proportions of exports and imports of cotton, linen, and woollen goods, explaining that the returns of exports included enormous quantities of manufactured goods sent here from abroad and re-exported as English goods.

Mr. G. Murphy questioned whether compulsory education would do much to improve trade, although reduction of expenditure on the part of employers would enable them to deal more justly with their workpeople.

Mr. Noble replied to the various comments on his address, and it was announced that other subjects of a like character would be submitted for discussion on future occasions.

AN EMIGRATION AGITATION.—On Monday morning, at a hundred different parts of the metropolis, working men presented to the passers-by in the public street a petition to her Majesty, and asked the signatures to it of all working men. The petition humbly submits to her Majesty that a large number of men, women, and children have long been and are now in a state of destitution through inability to procure work; that they are informed that in many other parts of her Majesty's dominions there is a great demand for labour and an abundance of food. The petitioners therefore pray her Majesty that steps may be taken without delay so that those who are willing to work may be enabled to go to those parts of her dominions where their labour is required. The petition has received thousands of signatures.

WHEAT AVERAGES.—It is with some perplexity we observe that the wheat average of the last six weeks—as published by the authorities—is the lowest of any at the same period since 1865, the following being the official returns for each year at the same period—namely, the middle of October:—1865, 42s. 1d. per quarter; 1866, 52s. 2d. per quarter; 1867, 67s. 6d. per quarter; 1868, 53s. 8d. per quarter; 1869, 47s. per quarter. In the first and fourth of these years the wheat crops were good—that of last year exceptionally so; in all of them the importations of foreign wheat were large, that of the present year up to the beginning of September being considerably below that of last year. Since that date there has been an increase, but by no means equal to the supposed deficiency in the crops as compared with that of 1868; and certainly not enough to raise any alarm with the English growers for the future of the trade between the present time and another harvest. With a rapidly-increasing population and an inexorably limited area of cultivated lands, we shall certainly require increasing foreign supplies of bread-corn annually. —*Chambers of Agriculture Journal.*



THE EMPRESS EUGÉNIE IN THE EAST: ARRIVAL AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—(SEE PAGE 315.)

THE NEW LORD MAYOR.

MR. ALDERMAN BESLEY, who entered on his year of office as Lord Mayor of London on Tuesday, was born in Exeter in 1800, and began his business life in his father's office, where, as an apprentice, he was initiated into "the art and mystery" of printing. Mr. Robert Besley, wishing to turn his energies to account in a wider field than Exeter afforded, came to London, and in the year 1820 joined the firm of Messrs. Thorogood, typefounders, in Fann-street. Here his enterprise and business capacity soon became apparent, and he applied himself to the extension of the firm's connections with marked effect. Various new styles of type were introduced by him, and the foundry increased in reputation; so that when Mr. Thorogood retired Mr. Besley stood at the head of a large and flourishing concern. In 1825 he commenced his connection with the Corporation, being in that year returned as one of the representatives of the ward of Aldersgate in the Court of Common Council, where he was distinguished by the sound sense and practical wisdom he brought to bear upon the various matters discussed. Nine years later Sir Peter Laurie, the Alderman of the ward, died, and so favourable an impression had Mr. Besley created, that nearly every elector signed the requisition to him to become a candidate for the vacant gown. He accepted the invitation, and was returned without opposition. In 1864-5 he filled the office of Sheriff, his colleague being Mr. Alderman Dakin. Mr. Alderman Besley is a man of considerable ability and shrewdness. His speeches are generally brief and pointed, with a dash of humour, which is not the less effective from a slight tinge of Devonshire provincialism. At various times Mr. Alderman Besley has taken an active part in several important social and political movements, in which he has had for his colleagues some of the most eminent men of the day.

We understand that it is proposed by some of the friends of Mr. Alderman Besley to present him with a token of congratulation, which may take the form of a portrait of himself in his official robes as Lord Mayor, to be painted by an artist of much promise, who is one of his own family and bears his name.

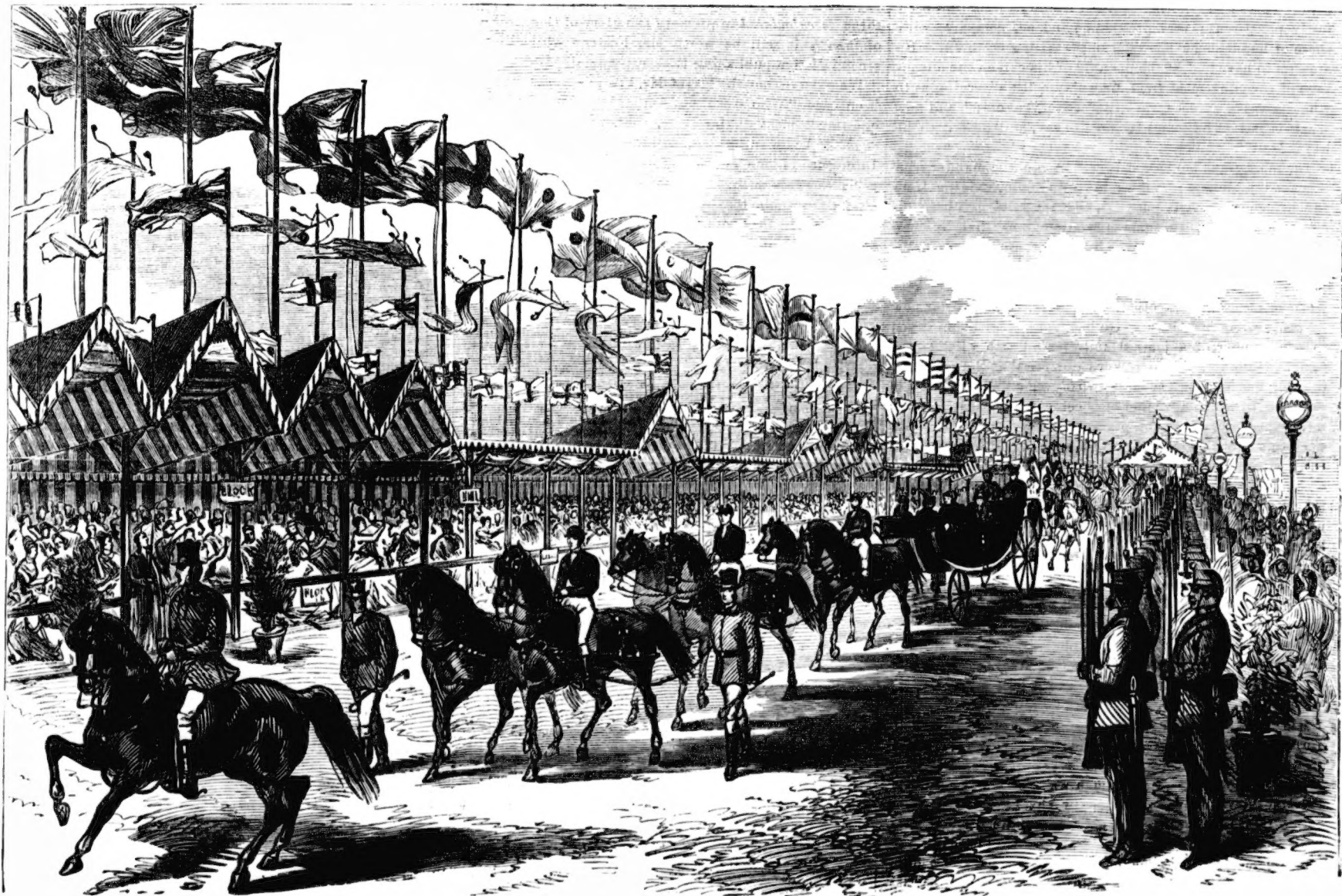
At the Mansion House, on Wednesday, the new Lord



ROBERT BESLEY, ESQ., THE NEW LORD MAYOR OF LONDON.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.)

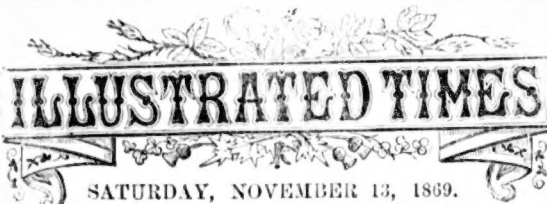
Mayor, who was accompanied by Sir Thomas Gabriel, took his seat for the first time in that capacity. In doing so, addressing Mr. Oke, the chief clerk, and the other officers, he said he need hardly say how much he should have to rely upon the officers. The harmonious working of the business of that court depended very greatly upon them. Former Lord Mayors had relied more or less on their aid, and he had no doubt he should have that assistance which had been cheerfully rendered to all his predecessors. To the representatives of the press there he could only say he hoped their reports would always bear the same character for strict impartiality which he had reason to believe they had invariably done.

A meeting of Devonshire gentlemen was held, on Wednesday, at the Cannon-street Hotel, for the purpose of preparing a congratulatory address to the Lord Mayor on his election, by which so high a compliment was paid to his native county. The chair was taken by Mr. Stephens (sculptor), who informed the meeting that a sub-committee had been appointed since the previous meeting, and had prepared an address, which would be read in the course of the proceedings. Mr. Halse (secretary) read the report of the sub-committee, embodying the address, and stated that if it should be approved of by the meeting, Sir John Coleridge, the senior member for the city of Exeter, had conditionally promised to present it. The address, which was very brief, congratulated the Lord Mayor on his election to the highest office in the greatest city in the world, and dwelt, in one or two sentences, on the honour which had been conferred on Devonshire, his Lordship's native county, by the selection. Letters were then read from Lords Devon and Poltimore, the Earl of Portsmouth, and several other peers, baronets, and gentlemen connected with Devonshire, all giving the writers' adhesion to the object of the meeting. A resolution adopting the address was moved by the Rev. Dr. Brock, who, in the course of a humorous speech, full of local reminiscence, observed that, in his judgment, London was as much honoured in having a Devonshire man for its Lord Mayor as Devonshire was in giving a Lord Mayor to London. The motion was carried unanimously.



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CRITICISM AND MORALS.

A CURIOUS pamphlet, entitled "My Review; or, Public Men and Their Censors," by Frank Foster, Author of "Number One; or, The Way of the World," &c., has been sent to this office, as, we presume, to a hundred others. On the cover is the following sentence:—

Metropolitan reviewers being very unlikely persons to say a word calculated to extend the circulation of this little pamphlet, a copy has been sent to every public man of note in the United Kingdom.

There is something vague in this. What is a "public man of note"? What is "a word calculated to extend the circulation of this little pamphlet"? It is not easy to say; but the ILLUSTRATED TIMES is not in the habit of shirking discussion, and will endeavour to deal justly with Mr. Foster and his monograph, and the very large questions that it raises.

Either by Mr. Frank Foster himself or his publishers a list of some of his works is appended to this pamphlet. One of them appears to be in its fifth edition; others are in their second. One is dedicated to the Duke of Cambridge—"by permission." To the advertisement of one is appended this notification:—

In addition to the portraits of other distinguished men, this work contains an engraved portrait of Mr. George Peabody, from a picture presented by the American philanthropist to Frank Foster.

Mr. Frank Foster himself announces that his writings, or some of them, have received the approbation of "four Archbishops." And the following note ends the advertisement-page:—

NOTE.—The simple announcement of the fact that the above-named works have been favourably reviewed by more than 140 newspapers and magazines, must supply the place of extracts.

In addition to this, in the body of the pamphlet we have such expressions as "my late friend Richard Cobden," "the last time I dined with the great novelist" (Thackeray), and so forth. It also appears that Mr. Frank Foster is a literary man of long standing, and that he is now in the decline of life. It is impossible for outsiders to know his whole story, but the indications contained in this monograph are in favour of the supposition that his literary career has been fairly prosperous; very prosperous indeed, compared with those of hundreds of his—and our—writing brethren. He appears to have had, at the opening of his career, the advantage of encouragement from Macaulay, with a warning as to what he was to expect from "literary scavengers;" and now what is it that he comes forward to say, and how does he say it?

The monograph is vigorously written, in the manner of a practised journalist; and we have no doubt, judging from the evidence which it supplies, that its writer has been an effective worker. His name is familiar to us; but, by some accident, none of his writings have ever crossed our path. This is not wonderful, considering how large life is, and how often intimate acquaintances live in the same city without meeting each other. What Mr. Frank Foster now writes is easily summed up. He has had his writings praised in one number of a journal and treated with a little contempt in another. Upon this we observe that the same sort of thing has happened to most writing-men. We could point out cases in which a volume has been condemned in a given newspaper in one year and praised the very next. But what does this probably prove? That reviewers differ, and that in the meanwhile the staff of the newspaper had undergone a change. At all events, it is a thing to smile at, and not a thing to foam at the mouth about. Mr. Frank Foster affirms, upon authority, that the late Bishop Villiers was as surely killed as if he had been shot by certain vituperative journalists. It may be so; but what a confession! Mr. Foster also refers to a case—we suppress the name, and hope he will be the first to forgive us for doing so—in which an author's wife was nearly killed by a notice in the *Athenæum*. One is sorry to hear of these things, and would not write a line to diminish any sense of responsibility which reviewers may happen to have; but, after all, to be upset by an adverse, or even a thoroughly false, review for more than a dinner-time or two, is, to say the least, unfortunate. What strikes us—and with some surprise—is the weight of displeasure which Mr. Foster expends upon trifles. Who would expect a man who had been encouraged by Macaulay and accompanied by Thackeray to care for being told in a newspaper that he couldn't write? Some authors never read reviews at all; some read only the kind ones; some read only the harsh ones; some read them all, and laugh and go on as if nothing had happened. Whatever may remain to be said upon the subject, we think few

(except very young writers) will read through Mr. Foster's pamphlet without feeling that its phrasing is unpleasant and vindictive. The author disclaims ill-will, and we believe in his sincerity—we mean, we believe that *he* believes in himself; but his manner is certainly corrosive.

After the general charges against "second-rate" reviewers, come some passages of a different character. Here is one of them, the most general, and also the mildest:—

Were it necessary to individualise or picture, by pencil or pen, characters, past and present, in the various cases within my own knowledge, of immorality, injustice, scepticism, or downright infidelity on the part of second-class metropolitan reviewers, I have materials more than sufficient for a moderate-sized volume.

If Mr. Foster should think it wise or right to carry this kind of thing further, in the spirit in which he has made some *specific* charges, it is only to be hoped that he will make quite sure who *did* write the articles that have displeased him, and that he will also make sure of his facts.

Some of Mr. Frank Foster's remarks upon the incapacity, looseness, rashness, and injustice of the herd of reviewers seem to us effective; but his policy strikes us as being a mistaken one. Some of the ablest and most honest of living writers—men who have never refused the helping hand, the helping guinea, or the helpful line—have been men whom Mr. Frank Foster could pillory. It is, of course, impossible to mention names; and, indeed, some of them are so conspicuous that they will at once strike the minds of men of letters who are also men of the world. Much very damaging comment might be made, has been made, and, it is privately known, has been "bought off" at an immense price, upon one of the names which occupy an *honourable* place somewhere between the middle and end of Mr. Foster's monograph. What havoc might be made among public men, not literary, by a tongue or a pen that chose to try it on, the author must well know! Does he think it would be the part of a wise or good man to choose? If so, let him boldly, openly do it—beginning, we will hope, with the rich and prosperous sinners. If not, had he not better avoid innuendo—or, rather, direct statement, which, for want of specification, has all the effect of innuendo? The usual effect of castigatory writing of this order is to please just the kind of public Mr. Foster would, we hope, disdain to please, and to create a recoil of the most perilous kind. One of his passages stands as follows:—

Concerning the first part of one of my own publications, the present Premier, some years since, was pleased to say:—"So far as I am able to judge, the work will prove a valuable addition to the moral literature of the age."

On another occasion the present Archbishop of York expressed his opinion in the following words:—"I am quite sure that your writings have all been inspired by a *sincere desire* to promote the glory of God in the good of man."

The italics upon "sincere desire" are ours. What this journal thinks of Mr. Gladstone is well known, and it has the deepest respect for Dr. Thomson. If either of them writes to Mr. Frank Foster saying:—"I have read from page 29 to the end of your pamphlet, and think this sort of thing *is calculated* to promote the glory of God in the good of man"—it will be worth Mr. Foster's while to print a second edition publishing that testimonial.

We observe that the last of Mr. Foster's works, "just out," is entitled "Who'd be an Author?" Our answer "to a strike question" most distinctly is, that, at all events, nobody *ought* to be an author who will not take an author's chance. Literature is one of the heroic professions. In the mean time, there is such a deliberate challenge in Mr. Frank Foster's pamphlet that we only hope "metropolitan reviewers" generally will take care to stultify—alike in his own interest, theirs, and the profession's—the minatory notice printed upon the first page, by noticing the pamphlet even more fairly than we have endeavoured to do.

A CLERGYMAN'S OBJECTIONS TO FREE LIBRARIES.—At a public meeting of the ratepayers, held on Monday, in the Townhall, Lowestoft, it was decided by a large majority not to adopt the Free Library Act, 18th and 19th Vic., cap. 70. The Rev. H. Willmott, the Rector of Kirkley, in speaking against the establishment of the library, said that he had seen errand-boys in the Free Library room at Oxford reading in the daytime when they should have been delivering parcels for their masters. He had also seen a milkman holding the milkpails and reading the newspapers which were fixed to the stands. The principal objection to the library was that it would add a levy of one penny in the pound per year to the already heavy rates in the town. The local rates, it may be stated, are less than five shillings in the pound yearly, the improvement rate never exceeding one shilling half yearly, and the poor rate is eightpence in the pound quarterly. Sometimes it is as low as sixpence. The population of Lowestoft with Kirkley—formerly one town—is upwards of 14,000, and it is without a literary institution.

THE SCOTTISH CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE.—A meeting of this body was held on Tuesday, at which reports from committees on hypothec and the game laws were considered. A committee was appointed to confer with the Lord Advocate on the subject of the Government bringing in a bill about hypothec. The committee on the game laws gave in a report affirming generally the principle of the bill introduced by Mr. McLagan during the last Session of Parliament. Mr. Clay, Kerchesters, moved that the report be adopted; and an amendment was proposed by Mr. Scot-Skirving to the effect that it be not adopted. On a division, the amendment was carried by 38 to 27. Mr. Alexander Bent, of Halkerton, then moved, "That the Chamber considers that hares and rabbits should be placed by law equally under the control of the owners and occupiers of land other than mountainous, and that no contract entered into subsequently to the passing of the Act shall have the legal force of depriving the tenant of this right; further, that the Chamber adhere to its former resolution that all prosecutions for offences against the game laws shall be transferred from the justices to the sheriffs in the respective counties, and that cumulative penalties for offences against these laws be abolished." On a vote being taken, it was found that the numbers for and against the motion were equal, and it was ultimately agreed to adopt the following motion by Mr. Nicoll, Littleton:—"That this Chamber calls upon the Government to introduce, as promised last Session, a measure dealing with the Scottish game laws, and that a committee be appointed to wait upon the Lord Advocate and urge him to release the pledges of his predecessor." In the evening at a dinner of the Chamber, Mr. McLagan, M.P., described his recent tour in Ireland, and made suggestions for a measure on the land question. Briefly it was, that where a tenant had made permanent improvements, he would make the presumption of law that there was a thirty-one years' lease; and if the tenant wished to leave, he should be entitled to five years' rental, as compensation for unexhausted improvements, or such other sums as might be settled by a court of arbitration.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY, it is expected, will visit Aldershot in the course of next week, and remain a couple of days at the camp pavilion.

THE BIRTHDAY OF THE PRINCE OF WALES occurred on Tuesday, and there were the customary loyal demonstrations in commemoration of the event. His Royal Highness was born on Nov. 9, 1841. In the afternoon the Prince and Princess paid a visit to her Majesty at Windsor Castle.

COUNTESS PERCY was safely delivered of twins, both girls, at Alnwick Castle, about ten o'clock on Sunday morning. Both mother and children are doing well.

THE BISHOP OF ST ASAPH, it is generally understood, acting under advice, has sent in his resignation to Mr. Gladstone. The right rev. Prelate is in his eightieth year, and has for some time past been incapacitated for business.

GENERAL GARIBALDI has written to a friend to say that he still contemplates visiting the north of England before long.

THE FUNERAL OF THE MARQUIS OF WESTMINSTER took place on Monday, at Eccleston. The ceremony was as private as possible. The principal tenants, the Mayor of Chester, the members of the City Council, and the leading citizens were amongst the mourners in the church at Eccleston, close to Eaton Hall. Business in Chester was entirely suspended.

DR. HOOKER, director of the Botanical Gardens at Kew, is to be made a Companion of the Bath. Mr. Anthony Musgrave is gazetted Governor of British Columbia and its dependencies.

MR. GEORGE VINING, late the lessee of the Princess's Theatre, on Monday presented his own petition for an adjudication of bankruptcy. The liabilities are said to be about £5000.

THE NATIONAL REFORM CONVENTION OF JEWISH RABBIS in session at Philadelphia have passed resolutions in favour of adopting modern languages in the prayers, and of introducing modifications in the dietary, marital, and other laws.

THE MARQUIS OF BUTE, it is rumoured in Oxford, is negotiating the purchase of the Clarendon Hotel (better known to old Oxonians as the Star Inn) for the purpose of building on this very eligible site a handsome and commodious Roman Catholic Cathedral, the present chapel not being sufficiently large to seat the congregations that weekly attend.

THE SUBWAY leading from the members' private entrance to the House of Commons in connection with the Metropolitan District Railway will be completed early in the ensuing month.

ALDERMAN J. C. LAWRENCE, the late Lord Mayor, is to be made a Baronet, and his name, therefore, must now be added to the list of titled members of the Court of Aldermen, which previously included Sir R. W. Carden, Sir James Duke, Sir T. Gabriel, Sir F. G. Moon, Sir J. Musgrove, Sir B. Phillips, Sir W. A. Rose, Sir D. Salomons, and Sir S. H. Waterlow.

THE RECEPTION OF THE KING AND QUEEN OF THE BELGIANS in this country promises to be of a very hearty character. At a meeting of the reception committee last Saturday, it was stated that the address of welcome to their Majesties had already received the signatures of 170 chief magistrates of the counties, cities, and boroughs of the United Kingdom.

A BRIGANTINE, supposed to be the *Ithuriel*, of Belfast, went ashore near Ballintrae on the Ayrshire coast, on Monday morning and was wrecked and all hands drowned. The nearest life-boat was fifteen miles away, and could not be got to the scene in time.

TIDE-END HOUSE, Teddington, late the residence of Benjamin Higgs, the defaulting cashier to the Great Central Gas Company, has been purchased by Sir Clifford Constable. The sum realised was £6500.

THE RATIFICATIONS OF THE Treaty of Friendship, Trade, and Navigation, between the King of Sweden and Norway and the Supreme King of Siam, were, on Tuesday, exchanged at the Swedish Legation by the respective Plenipotentiaries, Baron Hochschild and Sir John Bowring.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF ART AT MUNICH was closed on the evening of the 31st ult. It is satisfactory to hear that an undertaking so eminently successful in an artistic point of view has caused no loss to the projectors. The expenses are estimated at 50,000 gulden, while the receipts have amounted to 70,000 gulden.

BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE was opened for carriage and passenger traffic at six o'clock on Tuesday morning. In the course of the forenoon the crowd upon the structure became so dense that the temporary bridge had again to be partially used in order to relieve the traffic.

A CIRCULAR has been issued from the War Department calling the attention of volunteer commanding officers to the importance of being punctual in the transmission of the annual returns showing the strength of their respective corps. Last year, in some cases, the returns came in so late that the necessary figures could not be included in the Parliamentary Estimates for the year.

THE HOLBORN VIADUCT was thrown open for traffic at eight o'clock on Monday morning. The scene is described as having been a very animated one. Some cracks, it appears, have shown themselves in the granite pillars which support the bridge over Farringdon-street, which, although it is said no danger is apprehended, considerably mar the beauty of the structure.

THE INQUEST into the cause of death of the persons killed at the late railway accident at the Welwyn junction was concluded on Monday. After hearing a good deal of additional evidence of a technical character the jury found that the accident resulted from the accidental shifting of the points by the pointsman while the train was going over. They added a recommendation that an independent line should be made from Hatfield to Hertford.

A SEVERE EARTHQUAKE has taken place at Manila. Every building was shaken and several walls were thrown down. Many accidents occurred at Manila and in the neighbouring provinces.

THE FAREWELL BANQUET announced to be given to Dr. Temple by the friendly societies of Rugby is fixed for Wednesday, Dec. 1, when the Rev. Canon Moultrie, the Rector, has consented to take the chair.

THE MONMOUTHSHIRE COLLIERIES intend shortly again to resort to a strike, unless they receive much higher wages than they are now paid. Whether the strike will be confined to Monmouthshire is not yet definitely settled, but there are reasons for supposing that efforts are being made for a general strike throughout South Wales.

THE ENTRIES FOR THE SMITHFIELD CHRISTMAS CATTLE SHOW are largely in excess of those in any previous year. The number of classes will be sixty-three, and the aggregate amount of the prize-list is upwards of £2500. The exhibition is to be opened on Monday, Dec. 6.

DANIEL CALLAGHAN, a labourer, has been murdered in a lonely spot at Penrose's Quay, Cork. He was seen by a watchman talking to three men, one of whom fired at him. He fell, and a second man deliberately shot him through the head. Documents were found on the body which led to the belief that the deceased was a Fenian whose fidelity was suspected. The three men escaped.

TWO DAUGHTERS OF THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF ABERCORN were married on Monday morning in Westminster Abbey—Lady Maud Hamilton to the Marquis of Lansdowne, and Lady Albertha to the Marquis of Blandford, eldest son of the Duke of Marlborough. The Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince and Princess Christian, and the Duke of Cambridge, were present at the ceremony.

MR. AYRTON was on Monday re-elected for the Tower Hamlets without opposition. In returning thanks, the hon. gentleman said that that was probably the last time that an election would take place in that borough on the hustings, it being considered desirable by a large portion of the present House of Commons that the mode of electing members should be entirely changed, with the view of preventing intimidation and corruption.

BROADHEAD, of Sheffield trade union notoriety, having lately argued that, although a bad character, he was not worse than the average of the working classes of that town, a meeting was held in Paradise-square, last Saturday, at which a resolution was passed disclaiming any connection with Broadhead as a leader, or sympathy with the crimes of which he had been guilty. The Rev. Mr. Stanton, however, who called the meeting, was hoisted by a section of the crowd.

MR. CORRY, the First Lord of the Admiralty in the late Government, is, it is stated, about to retire from the representation of Tyrone, on account of ill-health. The right hon. gentleman has represented the county since 1826, and is now in his sixty-fourth year. Another item of election news is that Mr. Milner Gibson, in reply to a deputation, has definitively declined to come forward for Southwark, for a similar reason. The Conservatives intend to contest this borough.

THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE has made a very liberal offer to the people of Buxton. If the people of that town will form a public company to carry out a number of required improvements, with a capital of £10,000, he will take half the shares, and give in addition eight or nine acres of land at a nominal rent of 5s. per annum. A committee has been appointed to canvass the town and take other steps. It was stated, at a meeting held on Friday week, that the land offered by the Duke was worth £9000; this, with the £5000 of capital he offers to provide, making his Grace's contribution to the scheme £14,000.

THE BROTHER OF THE HEROINE GRACE DARLING died last Saturday. On the retirement of Grace Darling's father, a few years ago, as lighthouse-keeper on the Longstone Island, his son, Mr. William Darling, was appointed to succeed him, and continued to reside on the island up to the time of his death.

THE MORTALITY IN LONDON last week was exceptionally great, the number of deaths registered being 1772, or 368 above the estimated number. The deaths from zymotic diseases were 511, which is 148 above the average; 241 of these were from scarlet fever. The deaths from pulmonary diseases were also above the average; 191 persons having died from phthisis, 219 from bronchitis, and 114 from pneumonia. The estimated number of deaths from these three diseases was 168, 183, and 96 respectively. The mean temperature of the air was 46°6 degrees, which is 0°5 above the average of the last fifty years.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THE elevation of Mr. Robertson, M.P. for Berwickshire, to the Peerage, has not been, at the time I am writing, gazetted; nor, indeed, as far as I am aware, authoritatively announced. It is, though, taken for granted in the county, and two candidates for his seat are in the field. The Liberal candidate is Lord William Montagu Hay; the Conservative, Lord Douglas. Lord William Hay is the third son of the Marquis of Tweeddale. Though only forty-three years of age, he may be called "an old Indian," for he was in the civil service of the East India Company from 1845 to 1862. Seventeen years his Lordship held a high position in India, and gained no small credit for the manner in which he performed his duties there. He was Deputy Commissioner of Simla, and Superintendent of the Hill States in Northern India. In 1865 he was returned for Taunton. In 1869 he flew at higher game, for then he contested the seat so long held by Lord Elcho in Haddingtonshire. This was a chivalrous, daring thing to do; and, though the attempt failed, the failure was not ignominious. Elcho polled 405; Hay, 340. With the ballot, men think, Lord William would have succeeded; or, as we may say, merit would have carried away the palm; for there is no question about the merit of the two Lords. Lord William is a strong man, and, like all strong men, has a definite political creed. He knows what he believes, and can give reasons for the political faith that is in him—no man better. Lord Elcho's mind, on the contrary, is always in a haze. He is so independent that no man can depend upon him. His independence, however, does not arise from strength of conviction, but from doubt. If the Berwickshire electors did but know Lord William as he is known in the House of Commons, they would not hesitate to choose him to represent them. Lord Douglas I have not the honour of knowing; he has never been in Parliament. Indeed, until I saw that he had entered the field as candidate for Berwickshire, I had never heard of Lord Douglas. He, I learn from "Debrete," is the eldest son of the Earl of Home—a representative peer of Scotland. What talents he may possess I know not. The *Scotsman* hints that his Lordship declines to submit himself to that searching process known as "heckling." "Hekling! what does that mean?" some of my southern readers may ask. A heckle or hackle is an instrument with teeth for separating the coarse parts of hemp or flax from the fine, and, having described the noun, I need not explain the verb.

If there were any generosity in political parties, young Mr. Gladstone would be allowed to walk over the course at Whithy. The Conservatives cannot hope to win; for, no longer ago than December, 1868, they were beaten by 894 against 578. This contest, then, is got up simply to vex and annoy Mr. Gladstone, and put him to expense. It always was so, and, it is to be feared, always will be. Corporations and political parties have, proverbially, no consciences. If we cannot beat our political opponents we will annoy them, and, if we can, ruin them, has been the principle of action in political warfare ever since political parties began to fight—and that is a very long time ago. Such is political animosity—unkind, ungenerous, unscrupulous, persistent, bitter.

The last report about the Irish law officers is that Mr. Sullivan will take the post of Master of the Rolls, and that Mr. Barry will be Attorney-General. This, though, is a matter of course. He is now Solicitor-General, and if Mr. Sullivan retires to the Bench Mr. Barry will claim the Attorney-Generalship, albeit he cannot get a seat in Parliament. The Solicitor-Generalship in such case will be given to Sir Colman O'Loughlin. It was said that Mr. Serjeant Dowse would have it, Sir Colman being quite willing to waive his claim. But Mr. Dowse would have to ask the electors of London-derry to re-elect him, and their willingness to do so, it is suspected, is very doubtful. He defeated his opponent last year by 100 majority; but a change has come over the spirit of Irishmen since then. Sir Colman O'Loughlin, having already held office under the Crown, would not vacate his seat by taking another post. All this I have gathered since I last wrote; but if matters are really thus arranged, why is the settlement not announced officially? I suspect—Rumour, however confident, notwithstanding—that this business is not yet fixed. Indeed, it is not a business capable of being settled in a satisfactory manner. Mr. Sullivan was in the Irish Church struggle Gladstone's right-hand man, rendering to the Prime Minister most efficient service. It is natural, then, that Mr. Gladstone should wish to have Mr. Sullivan by his side next Session to render aid in the discussion upon the much more difficult Irish land question. On the other hand, it is felt to be unreasonable to ask Mr. Sullivan to relinquish the splendid prize now within his reach. It is true he is only forty-seven years old, and it may be said that he can afford to wait; but, as the proverb says, it is ill waiting for dead men's shoes. The Mastership of the Rolls is a high office. Only two Judges on the Bench take precedence of the Master of the Rolls—to wit, the Lord Chancellor and the Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench. The Lord Chancellor, O'Hagan, is not an old man. The Lord Chief Justice, Whiteside, is only sixty; and both look as tough as leather. Besides, Mr. Sullivan has to think of the chances of war. A general election might come, and he lose his seat, and thus be whirled out of the running; or, when the next good thing falls in, his friends may be out of office. It is a difficult question to solve; and hence, I have no doubt, the delay; but it is to be hoped that some arrangement will be made to keep Mr. Sullivan in the House; for, if he should leave, it is not too much to say that no efficient substitute can be found.

By-the-way, what queer people our Irish brethren are! At the last general election, not a year ago, the name of Gladstone was more potent than any that had been heard as a war-cry for years. But now, an Irish gentleman tells me, it has lost all its power, and if a general election were to take place this year a large number of the Prime Minister's supporters would lose their seats; although, at this moment, our Prime Minister—his friends tell me—is in such a fever of anxiety to redress Irish wrongs that he can talk of nothing else. Unhappy, infatuated Ireland! How is it possible to help such unreasonable, unreasonable people? And what strange leaders they follow! This George Henry Moore, for example, who is the darest spouter of fustian that ever entered the House of Commons. Irish orators, generally, are at least lively, and most of them are humorous, witty, or, at all events, jocular; but this man's talk is as dead as ditch-water. Whenever he rises the House always melts away; and last Session, when he made a long speech on the Fenian prisoners, he would have been counted out but for the Irish members' fear of certain eyes in the gallery fixed upon them.

Chester is to return a Grosvenor, a northern paper says, but not a son of the late Marquis of Westminster. The late Marquis had but two sons, the present Marquis and Lord Richard de Aquila Grosvenor, the member for Flintshire. Failing, then, the direct line, a son of Lord Ebury, brother of the late Marquis, is to be proposed—and, of course, accepted. This young gentleman—the Christian name of whom I forget—is the brother of Captain Grosvenor, who sits for Westminster.

Here is a piece of good news. My readers will remember I told them that in the reign of Sir Benjamin Hall, Chief Commissioner of Works, the stonework in the interior of Westminster Palace was, by order of that gentleman, painted; and that the paint, originally something like stone colour, had long since deepened to the hue of London mud, making the natural darkness of the building, of course, still darker. Well, this coat of paint is to be scraped off—is, indeed, already partially scraped off. To get it all off will be a tedious, difficult, and expensive job. To clean it off the plain surface will not be difficult; but how the workmen will be able to get it out of the eyes, and the hair, and the features generally of the multitudinous statues, and also out of all the indentations, and hollows, and creases of the elaborate heraldic and once florid ornamentation passes my knowledge. Ah, me! what blunders we are! Only a few years ago Sir Charles Barry filled in the windows with heavy mullions and ornamentations, and loaded certain blank arches with elaborate decorations, regardless of cost; now, at a cost almost as great, we are cutting them

out by tons weight. Then came Sir Benjamin with his paint-pots; and, at the cost of hundreds, daubed the whole with paint, which, at double the cost, we are now scraping away. Much has been said about Mr. Ayrton's qualifications for his office. Well, this is certain, he, at least, will not lay out money in doing mischief, as Sir Benjamin did.

The "Revivalists of British Industry," as they style themselves, having determined to revive, if not British industry, at least the old figment of Protection, it behoves the friends of Free Trade to make themselves familiar with the facts and arguments necessary to vindicate their principles from the attacks of covert as well as open foes. For this purpose, a pamphlet recently published by Mr. John Noble, which has just come into my hands, is admirably adapted. It contains a complete set of trade statistics applicable to every phase of the question, culled from authentic sources, and arranged in a clear and intelligible form, with their bearings on the argument admirably put. Mr. Noble has triumphantly demolished the arguments—or rather the assertions—of the Revivalists, and shown that Free Trade, and the French treaty, so far from being "gigantic mistakes," have been of immense benefit to the commerce of Great Britain; and can only be accused of failure because the principles they embody have not been universally adopted—to effect which result, however, the Revivalists' notion of returning to protective duties is about the worst conceivable plan. That policy, as Mr. Noble shows, has already been tried and has failed, the only consequence of its adoption being to cripple home industry by enhancing prices and so checking consumption, not to compel the foreigner to open his ports, as was fancied would be the result then, and as the Revivalists foolishly fancy would be the result now. I advise the friends of free commerce to carefully study Mr. Noble's pamphlet; for, masters of the facts and arguments it contains, they will be armed at all points, and ready to refute the sophisms so glibly advanced in defence of what is called Reciprocity, but which is really Protectionism. Were it likely to be of any use, I would also advise the Revivalists to study the pamphlet; but, remembering how vain is the attempt to convince men against their will, I forbear, knowing that the leaders of the Revival of Protectionism movement are alike impervious to fact and to argument.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.
THE MAGAZINES.

The little *Elizabethan*, from the great Ipswich school, is always welcome, and the two last numbers are very interesting indeed. One is sorry to see that the subscribers do not cash up—for shame, gentlemen! I hope there is nothing invidious in singling out for praise "Aunt Sarah's Will" and the essay on "Poetry." There is something really fresh and natural about the former; and the latter raises a useful question. Here is an extract:—

It has always seemed to us that the essence and distinguishing characteristic of verse—to use no higher term—was melody; sheer music, and a certain indefinable halo that real poetry always has shining around it. Poems in which the lines are frequently mere prose cut up into lengths, and are sometimes really ugly, seem to us not to be poems at all. They may be most interesting, most beautiful in thought and sentiment, most happy in simile, of truest and noblest philosophy; but, to our mind, they are not poetry.

I believe that this writer is substantially right, and that he is saying a useful thing. Poetry is singing, and not preaching. But, for all this, I cannot agree with him in all his conclusions. "Aurora Leigh," for example, is, as he says, not a poem; but it does contain snatches of very fine poetry, and its author was a great singer. Again: Wordsworth's "Excursion," as this writer truly affirms, contains an immense quantity of mere prose cut into lengths; but he must look again before he can feel sure that it does not contain poetry, and he certainly must not say that "Lucy" is about the only poem Wordsworth ever wrote. What! not "Laodamia," or "Ruth," or "Nutting," or the "Ninth Evening Voluntary," or some of the "Sonnetts"? Again: this writer mistakes the character and relation of Hamlet's famous soliloquy, when he declares that he would sacrifice it for a passage of fine fancy (scarcely imagination) in "Midsummer Night's Dream." When he is a little older—when he has been crossed in love or interested in some great social question—he will be wiser. When Lear, bending over the dying Cordelia, says, "Prythee, undo this button!" he says nothing that this writer would account poetry, and, taken by themselves, the words are not poetry; but this touch, taken in its relation to the whole scene, is in the highest degree poetic.

I am very glad to see the moderate tone preserved in the *Medical Temperance Journal*. The following is noteworthy:—"McNish, in his able work on 'The Anatomy of Drunkenness,' gives an account of the effects of different stimulants on the system. Dr. Paris, in his 'Pharmacologia,' relates some curious facts relating to stimulants. Hobbes drank cold water when he was desirous of making a great intellectual effort, Newton smoked, Bonaparte took snuff, Pope strong coffee, Byron gin and water; Wedderburne, the first Lord Ashburton, always placed a blister on his chest when he had to make a great speech. The great Lord Erskine took large doses of opium. On the trial of Queen Caroline, Erskine, anxious to make a great speech, took an overdose of his favourite drug." But what is the exact evidence for all this? We may take such "facts" in a loose way for amusement, but it is stuff and nonsense to build anything upon them. By-the-by, Mr. George Gillfillan, we think, has put it upon record that he always drank hot water when he needed a stimulant upon sitting down to write. The best rule for men of letters is this—whenever it is possible, write the first thing after breakfast, while the refreshment of sleep is upon you and the faculties are, so to speak, young.

One reads a great deal of trash about the working man. Those who really wish to know what he is like, in some important particulars, should read the *English Mechanic and Mirror of Science*.

The *Christian Treasury*, which is edited by the Rev. Horatius Bonar, has the good point of always containing some easy and yet excellent music, with proper words. What the peculiar notation adopted means I do not see at a glance; nor, indeed, do some of us know what is meant by inventing new schemes of the kind. The old system is perfectly simple in itself, and, in order that it may be easily and extensively learnt, all that we want is—teachers.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

I have only to record the production of a very weak and altogether unsatisfactory version of "Paul Forester" at the LYCEUM, under the title "Forbidden Fruit." The piece is almost a literal translation; the only important departure from the scheme of the original play is in making the naughty lady of the piece a widow instead of a wife—an alteration which has the effect of confusing the plot and robbing much of the dialogue of its meaning, without materially enhancing the moral qualities of the piece. Mr. Allerton, who plays the principal part, seems to have no qualification for the stage; he has yet to learn the very rudiments of his art. Miss Beatrix Shirley is, as an actress, the counterpart of Mr. Allerton as an actor. Criticism bestowed on such a piece and on such actors is altogether out of place. Mr. Coghlan played the part of a scampish young gentleman like an actor; he afforded the only relief to the dull group of incapables with which he was surrounded. The piece was unequivocally "damned" on the first night by a large and appreciative audience.

I have seen Mr. Byron a second time in his amusing comedy, "Not Such a Fool as He Looks." He has much improved since the first night, and much of the ungainliness which, to my thinking, was manifest in certain portions of his action was certainly attributable to the nervousness of a first appearance. Mr. Byron now throws himself into the part without constraint, and the result is an infinitely better performance. It is often unfair on an actor to judge of his qualifications from a first night's performance; but it is not always that a critic has time or opportunity to amend his judgment.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO THE CITY.

OPENING OF BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE AND THE HOLBORN VIADUCT.

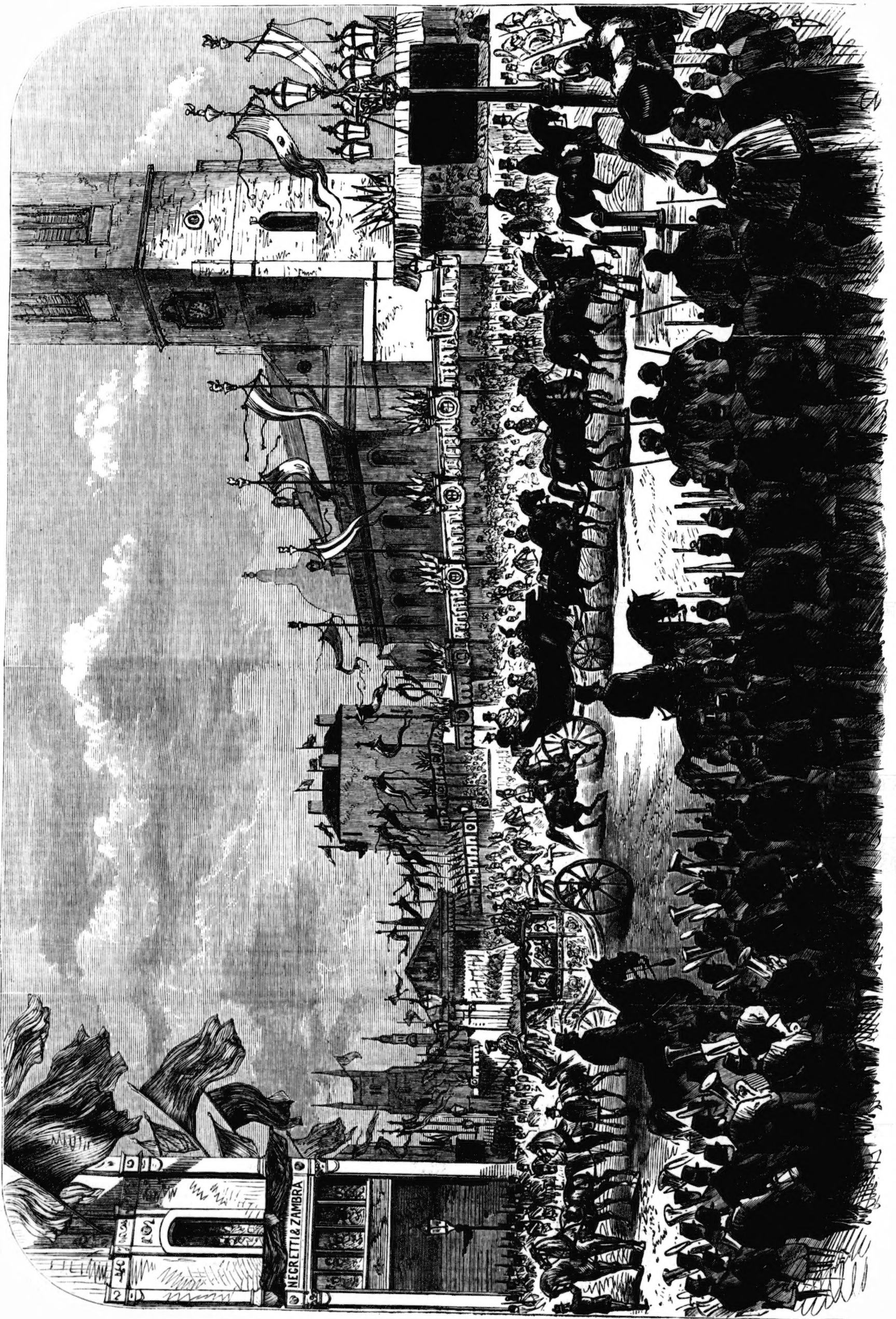
THE Royal visit to the metropolis last Saturday will long occupy a conspicuous place in the history of the city of London. The official programme for the opening of Blackfriars Bridge and Holborn Viaduct was carried out in the most satisfactory manner, and not a single incident occurred to interfere with the gratifying nature of the ceremonial. The weather was fine, and the streets through which the Royal cortège passed were densely packed with spectators, who cheered the Queen with much enthusiasm as she passed along. Her Majesty, who was accompanied by Princesses Louisa and Beatrice and Prince Leopold, arrived at the Surrey end of Blackfriars Bridge at noon, where she was received by the civic dignitaries, and presented with an address. The bridge having been declared open for traffic, the Royal party passed on to the viaduct, where a ceremony similar in character was gone through. A banquet was given by the Lord Mayor in the evening, at which the City was heartily congratulated upon the auspicious inauguration of two of the most important metropolitan improvements which have yet been carried out. Describing the day's proceedings somewhat more in detail, we omit her Majesty's journey from Windsor and progress through West-End thoroughfares, and begin with

BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE.

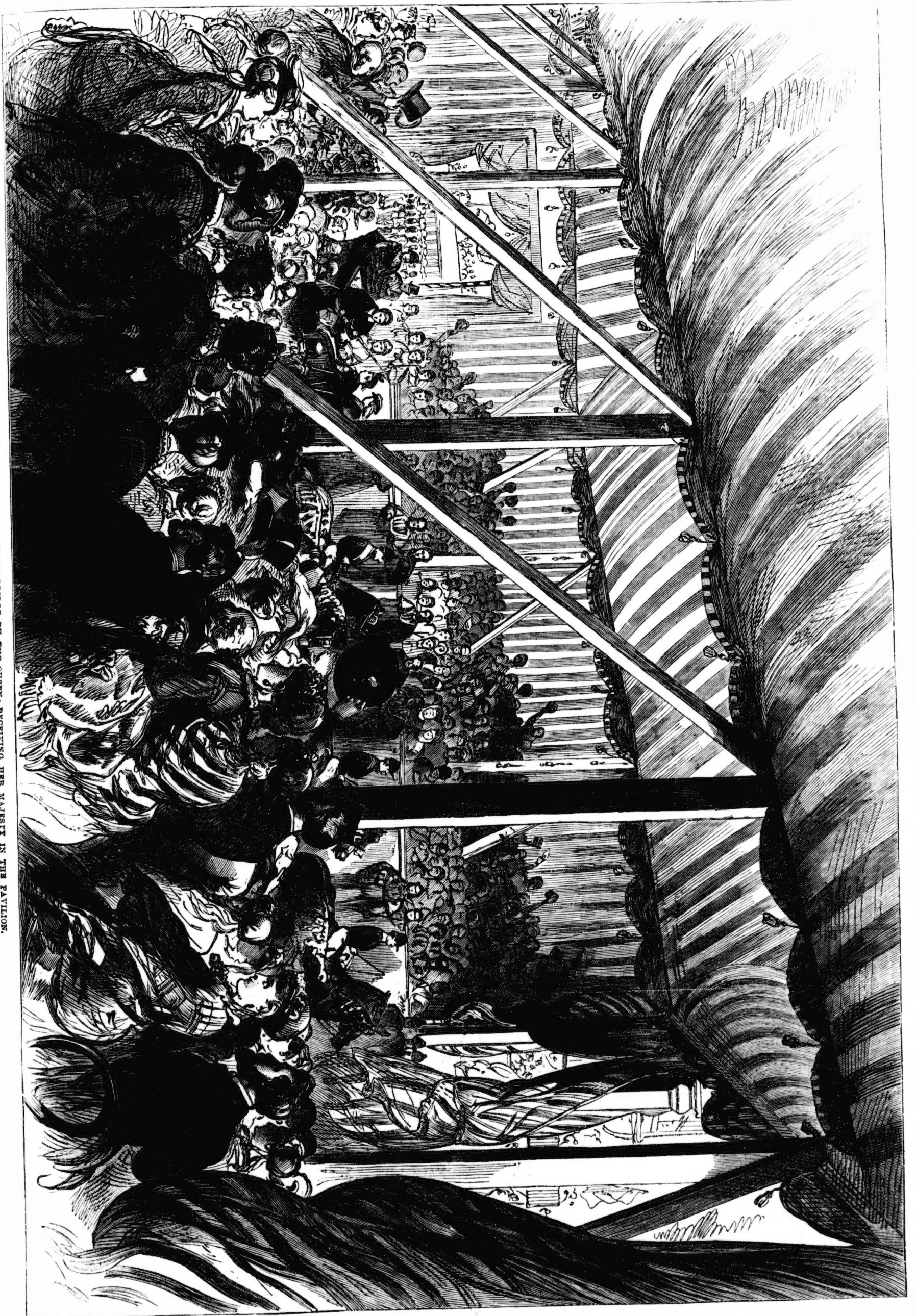
The preparations which had been made for the reception of her Majesty on Blackfriars Bridge, although quite adequate to the occasion, where by no means extravagant or pretensions. The principal decorations of the bridge itself, indeed, depended upon the presence of the galleries which had been constructed for the accommodation of the spectators, and the pavilion which had been erected at the southern extremity as the theatre of the reception of her Majesty by the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs, and the other representatives of the City Corporation. The galleries, which extended along the whole eastern side of the bridge and some seventy or eighty yards at the north end of the western side, were light timber structures, roofed with waterproof felt, and draped with scarlet and white cloth. They afforded accommodation for five rows of seats, and it is needless to say that all the places were occupied by ladies and gentlemen who had been fortunate enough to obtain tickets. The keenness of the morning air had led the majority of the sterner sex to clothe themselves in overcoats of varied shapes and colours; but, though some of the ladies arrived in those now favourite garments, "waterproofs," these were speedily thrown aside, and the fair wearers stood revealed in all the glories of many-coloured silks and velvets, rich furs, and glowing satins. With the exception of the short space at the northern end, the western side of the bridge was left open; and the occupants of the eastern gallery enjoyed an uninterrupted view up the river—along the line of the Thames Embankment, over the ugly railway bridge at Charing-cross, and away to what appeared in the November haze to be the "distant" towers of Westminster. The line of the curb was, however, broken at intervals by handsome evergreens in large pots, and the footway itself was for a considerable part of its extent occupied by the guards of honour, furnished by the Coldstream Guards and the 49th Middlesex or Post-Office Volunteers. To complete the decorations of the bridge—for in appearance they seemed to rise from the long gallery—poles had been erected at short intervals upon the temporary bridge, which, itself a useful but inelegant structure, was hidden from sight, and from these flags and banners of all nations, and of almost more than all colours and combinations of colours, waved and floated in the crisp morning breeze. When we add that the roadway of the bridge had been covered with several inches of fine gravel, we have said enough to indicate the general nature of the arrangements which had been made to secure the comfort of the Royal visitor and the convenience of the spectators. The pavilion, which was erected about thirty yards within the substantial gates that had been placed at the southern end of the bridge, was constructed in a simple but effective style. It was 80 ft. in length, and extended across the entire width of the roadway, affording seats for a considerable number of visitors. Tickets for all these had been issued by the committee which had charge of the arrangements, but many places remained unoccupied throughout the morning. Externally, this pavilion was decorated in white and gold. The southern entrance was divided into three festooned divisions, those to the right and left being hung with scarlet and white curtains, of a light but handsome material; while the centre, which was the width of the roadway left for the passage of the Royal cortège, was closed with heavy drapery of the richest maroon cloth, edged and ornamented with Greek key-pattern gold lace. The pilasters and entablature were of pearl-white, relieved by a moulding of gold; and the high-pitched roof was edged with a parapet of scarlet cloth drapery. In the centre were the City arms, surrounded by an admirably-designed trophy of flags. At the southern end of the apex of the roof fluttered the civic banner, with its white field and blood-red cross and dagger. At the corners were other banners bearing the well-known plume of feathers of the Prince of Wales, and the Danish national colours in honour of the Princess. The pavilion was draped with red and white hangings. Through the centre of the pavilion ran the road by which the carriages of the Lord Mayor and the City officials, as well as those of her Majesty and her suite, were to pass on to the bridge. The space upon the western side of the road was devoted exclusively to the accommodation of spectators. In the centre of the eastern side a handsome dais, covered with crimson cloth, had been prepared for the reception of the chief actors in the brief ceremonial of the day, and the seats around this were reserved for their more immediate friends.

Two hours were allowed for the assembling of the spectators. The bridge was opened to those who had received tickets at nine o'clock in the morning, and was closed against all the world, ticket-holders included, at eleven. Not many persons were sufficiently eager in their curiosity to present themselves at the opening of the gates, and more than half an hour elapsed before the arrivals were very numerous. Towards ten o'clock, however, they greatly increased in number, and throughout the last hour that the gates remained open the visitors passed on to the bridge almost as rapidly as they were permitted by the City policemen, who submitted every ticket to a rigid scrutiny. It was intimated upon the tickets that all visitors must be in their seats by half-past eleven o'clock; and long before the latest arrivals had got tired of their walk the members of the Court of Common Council, who were acting as chamberlains and masters of the ceremony—all clad in their gowns of mazarine blue and armed with white rods—began first to hint, and then to urge, the necessity for clearing the roadway and filling the chairs. As the gallant councillors showed themselves most courteous and painstaking in directing every one to the "block" or division for which his or her ticket was available, their hints and admonitions were readily obeyed. In a very short time the centre of the bridge was cleared, and the smooth roadway of yellow-brown gravel spread clear and unobstructed from end to end. One or two things occurred to relieve the monotony of waiting. First, the guards of honour marched on to the bridge with their bands playing, and soon afterwards arrived the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs, and the Aldermen and Common Councillors, who had been deputed to attend her Majesty. These distinguished individuals alighted from their respective carriages and made their way to the pavilion; but the carriages themselves were driven some distance on to the bridge, and furnished matter for comment and observation to the expectant spectators.

The chief interest, of course, centred in the pavilion, where such ceremony as there was to be gone through was to be performed. Only those who had received special tickets were allowed to enter here. The seats were not numbered, and, as more depended upon the position of a place here than in the gallery, most of the seats were occupied long before the bulk of the general spectators had begun to settle themselves in their places. This necessarily made the time of waiting within the pavilion longer



OPENING OF HOLBORN VALLEY VIADUCT BY THE QUEEN: HER MAJESTY'S DEPARTURE.



OPENING OF NEW BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE BY THE QUEEN: RECEIVING HER MAJESTY IN THE PAVILION.

than without; but if this was, to a certain extent, a disadvantage, it was amply compensated for by the greater number of incidents which occurred to break the monotony. Within the pavilion, as without, a certain number of Common Councillors, in their official costume, acted as gentlemen ushers, examined all tickets, and showed the holders to the seats which they were entitled to occupy; and these gentlemen appeared to act under the general direction of Mr. Alderman Cotton, who, clad in his scarlet gown, occupied a prominent position upon the dais, and, until the arrival of the Lord Mayor, played the part of host, welcoming the more distinguished guests, and himself indicating to them the seats prepared for their reception. The most noticeable group of strangers to whom the worthy Alderman had to discharge this duty were the Nawab Nazim of Bengal and his two sons, who were clad in that peculiar Oriental costume which is all brilliancy and gorgeousness above, and seems to be all seediness and bagginess below. Their Highnesses were most courteously received by Alderman Cotton, and took their seats next to Mr. John Locke, Mr. Layard's colleague in the representation of Southwark, who had arrived shortly before them, and was for some time the only M.P. who was present. Not far from them was another Oriental, a man of grey beard and reverend aspect, whose plain scarlet fez indicated his Turkish origin, and contrasted sharply with the showy turbans and sparkling caps of his Indian co-religionists. About half-past eleven o'clock considerable curiosity was excited by the arrival of a plain carriage. This unpretending vehicle drove straight into the pavilion, stopped at the dais, and set down no less a person than Mr. Bruce, her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department. By-and-by Mr. Ayton, the new Commissioner of Works, strolled in through the southern entrance of the pavilion, and seemed at first undecided where to take his seat. As soon, however, as he was recognised he was invited to ascend the dais, and there he remained until the close of the proceedings. Almost precisely at half-past eleven o'clock arrived the civic portion of the procession, the carriages containing the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs, the Common Serjeant (acting for the Recorder), and the Aldermen and Common Councillors appointed to meet and attend her Majesty. The first three or four carriages were occupied by members of the Common Council in their blue gowns, then came the Aldermen in scarlet robes and cocked hats, then the Sheriffs in their gorgeous carriages; and, last of all, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, in their elaborately-ornamented coach, which, with all its decorations and all its appearance of dignity, is yet only half state. His Lordship was, as usual, accompanied by his sword-bearer and mace-bearer; and while the head of the mace peeped out of one window the point of the sword, or, rather, that of its richly-ornamented velvet scabbard, was clearly manifested through the other. The Lord Mayor was in his state attire, a very handsome but uncomfortable-looking gown of crimson velvet, with an ermine collar. Over this he wore his gold chain of office, and was, of course, covered by the cumbersome-looking three-cornered hat which it is his privilege or duty to carry as chief magistrate of the City. The Lady Mayoress, we may mention for the satisfaction of our lady readers, was dressed in a blue silk dress and a blue velvet jacket. Only the Lord Mayor's carriage stopped at the dais; the others drove forward on to the bridge, and took up their positions ready to precede her Majesty in her progress to the Viaduct. Those of their occupants whose presence was necessary at the reception of the Queen had to alight on the bridge and make their way back to the pavilion on foot. The arrival of the Lord Mayor and the City authorities indicated the approach of the time at which the Queen herself might be expected; and, after the bustle occasioned by their reception was over, all eyes were turned towards the southern entrance of the pavilion, and all ears were inclined to listen for the shoutings which might be expected to herald the approach of the Sovereign. At last twelve o'clock drew very near, and the attention of everyone was absorbed in intense anticipation of the immediate arrival of the Queen. Nor had we long to wait. First the murmur as of many voices (it was the shouting of the people in Stamford-street) and then the booming of great guns told that the Royal cortège was close at hand. As the temporary gates on the southern side were thrown open, the City trumpeters—half a dozen or eight old gentlemen, clad in singularly inelegant, and in some cases rusty, scarlet cloaks, blew a loud flourish; the Royal standard was run up to the top of a tall flagstaff, and almost immediately afterwards a strong party of the Life Guards trotted through on to the bridge. They were followed by four open carriages-and-four, accompanied by outriders, containing the members of her Majesty's suite. These were followed by another troop of the Life Guards; and then came a carriage, drawn by six splendid brown horses, which contained the Queen, Princess Louisa, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice. Before the Royal carriage was in sight the occupants of the pavilion had risen from their seats, and as it passed the entrance the gentlemen broke out into a loud and hearty cheer, and the ladies waved their handkerchiefs and parasols. The Queen was evidently pleased with the warmth of the welcome which she had already received, still more pleased with the heartiness of the cheers to which she now listened, and she acknowledged them right royally, with bright smiles and gracious bows. Her Majesty was dressed, as usual, entirely in black; but the sombreness of her black velvet mantle was relieved by a collar and border of ermine, and beneath her black bonnet she wore a white cap. Princess Louisa also wore a black velvet mantle, but, although her bonnet was black, it was trimmed with scarlet ribbons. Prince Leopold was in Highland costume, and Princess Beatrice was attired in a light dress, and wore a hat with a white ostrich feather. As soon as the Queen's carriage drew up to the dais, the Home Secretary advanced, and presented the Lord Mayor to her Majesty. His Lordship, taking the sword of state from its bearer, presented it to the Sovereign; but the Queen, with a kindly smile and gentle wave of the hand, assured him that it could not be in better custody than his own. Then the Common Serjeant handed to his Lordship the official address, and the Lord Mayor, without reading it, presented it to the Queen.

Her Majesty handed this address to Mr. Bruce, and received from him the answer, which she gave to the Lord Mayor. This answer was not read at the time, but its purport, as announced by the Lord Mayor at the banquet in the evening, was as follows:—"I thank you for your loyal and dutiful address. It has afforded me much pleasure again to visit the city of London. Anxious as I have always been to identify myself with the interests of my people, it has given me unqualified satisfaction to assist at the opening of your new bridge and viaduct. In these works, at once of great practical utility and of architectural ornament to the City, I recognise the spirit of enterprise and improvement which has ever characterised the citizens of London; and I confidently trust that your anticipations of the benefit which will result to the community may be fully realised."

The Lord Mayor then presented to her Majesty John Paterson, Esq., the chairman of the Bridge House Estates Committee, who had moved the address in the Court of Common Council, and Joseph Cubitt, Esq., the engineer of the bridge. Both these gentlemen were honoured by a most gracious reception. The chairman of the committee begged her Majesty's acceptance of an illuminated book, containing a short account of Blackfriars Bridge. This beautiful volume, which has been prepared by Messrs. Howell and James, had on the first page the Royal arms emblazoned in true heraldic colours; on the next the arms of the city of London, with an elaborate Renaissance ornament, introducing the rose, shamrock, and thistle, and dedication of title, to which are affixed the names, "John Paterson, chairman;" "Joseph Cubitt, V.P. Inst. C.E., engineer." On the third page is inserted a beautifully-executed painting of the new bridge, the border enriched with emblematic groups, and the central panel of this and succeeding pages containing the descriptive text. The margin of page 4 contains the arms of the twelve great City companies, richly illuminated in gold and colours, with a vignette of the old Blackfriars Bridge; the concluding page bearing the seal or badge of the Bridge-House Commissioners with the arms and autograph

signature of the chairman. The volume is bound in pale blue morocco, inlaid with the Royal arms and appropriate ornamentations.

Her Majesty, having graciously accepted this interesting memorial of her visit, declared the new bridge open for traffic, and the ceremony—if ceremony it may be called—was at an end. There was here an awkward but perhaps unavoidable pause. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs, and other functionaries, had to walk to their carriages, which were some distance off on the bridge, and until they were seated and drove off the Royal equipage could not move. The Queen appeared to find this delay a little tiresome, and once she called Mr. Cubitt to the side of the carriage and exchanged a few sentences with him. During this interval the cheering was frequently renewed, and when at last the Royal carriage moved out of the pavilion it was followed by hearty exclamations of loyalty, which were taken up and repeated as the Queen's carriage passed slowly across the bridge and proceeded to the Holborn Viaduct.

THE VIADUCT.

The great work which her Majesty and the Royal cortège were now approaching divides with new Blackfriars Bridge the palm of architectural beauty, and, perhaps, exceeds it in practical utility, and in the amount of relief and facility which its completion will give to the traffic of mighty London. We have for more than a century had a good bridge across the Thames at Blackfriars; for the last ten or fifteen years, an excellent one, and, pending the construction of the new bridge, a temporary wooden structure, which has been better liked by the vehicular public than was its more permanent predecessor. But Holborn valley has been an unmitigated chasm from the beginning of historic time. When the open "Fleet" ran through it and brought ships up to its entrance, it was a hideous deposit of mud and filth, and neither man nor horse could traverse it in safety. When the Fleet came to be covered over, and had been degraded from a river into a sewer, the chasm of the valley still remained a regular ravine, divested of those picturesque accessories which render ravines so popular in books of travel. Of late years it had been one of the most exciting sights of London to stand at the corner of Farringdon-street and watch the omnibuses descending into the valley, as if shooting Niagara, or ascending on the opposite side like so many candidates for the Alpine Club. Hardly a day passed without its episode of horses tumbled down, omnibuses turned over, and passengers killed, wounded, or frightened out of their wits. The valley had, in fact, been for nearly a century a standing grievance with the public, and a perennial inspiration to municipal orators. The late Mr. Charles Pearson agitated the question for years, and after him came Mr. Deputy Fry, who had last Saturday the happiness of seeing his long and persevering efforts crowned with success. Whilst the company in the pavilion and neighbouring galleries were awaiting the arrival of her Majesty, they forgot the delay, and almost ignored the penetrating north wind, whilst admiring what had been done, and wondering over what had been undone. Looking north, they could see a sort of modern Palmyra spread around them; all the ancient landmarks of a once well-known and busy district having been almost entirely obliterated. Seven acres are not much out of a good farm—only one decent field; but seven acres cut out of the heart of London tells of thousands of people and hundreds of houses, and scores of streets removed, obliterated, or otherwise utterly rubbed out of the metropolitan map. The north side of the Viaduct may now, like Washington, be called a city of magnificent distances, with a patch of scaffolding scattered here and there to mark where the City of the future is to be. One tall, lone house that stood solitary in the desert attracted general notice. On the top of it the children of the family had established a swing, and enjoyed their perilous-looking sport seemingly quite regardless of the great civic pageant which was being enacted within a few yards of them. At the Holborn end, Hatton-garden was still there—that is to say, the upper portion of it, but every house was shut up, and it looked like the city of the dead. A City policeman, of mature years and solid proportions, of whom we asked some information as to what buildings had been there, replied distractedly, "I don't know, Sir; I don't know where I am; in fact, I hardly know what I am." He could only recognise the old Welsh Church, with a terribly fractured look about its end wall; and he kept his finger resolutely and immovably pointed at it, as if afraid it would glide away and vanish if he took his eye off it for a moment. On the other side of the street people stopped to look at St. Andrew's Church, as if it were some new edifice which they had never seen before. Its "surroundings" were all gone. It looked shivery, naked, surprised. The balustrade of the Viaduct bridge, looking down Farringdon-street, had its own crowd straining their eyes down a long and exceedingly shabby vista, at the end of which the Royal standard could be discerned fluttering over new Blackfriars. The Foot Guards preserved two "thin red lines" down the centre of the street, and the crowd two broad bands of many colours on each side of them. The meanness of our London street architecture was painfully conspicuous when looked at thus from an eminence, and the beautiful Viaduct and its four corner palaces seemed almost to frown, certainly to turn up their noses, at the lines of sodden brick walls, dirty windows, and dingy and lustreless decorations below. At the City end of the work Snow-hill is gone, and the only souvenir of old London that can be recognised there by the casual observer is the Church of St. Sepulchre and, on the other side, grim old Newgate.

The special preparations for the day's pageant here appeared to be excellent. Mr. Fenton, assisted by Mr. Wilkinson, of the Crystal Palace, had lined the Viaduct on both sides and throughout its entire length with handsome and commodious galleries, decorated simply, but with true taste and eye for effect; and in the centre stood the pavilion, erected by Messrs. Edgington, in which the Royal carriage was to draw up, and in which the Lord Mayor and civic dignitaries were to pay their homage from a platform. In this pavilion, which was elaborately decorated, were three openings, the Royal arms, richly emblazoned in gold, surmounting the main entrance, and the City arms occupying each side. Four female figures, bearing golden baskets of fruit, were placed against richly-gilt mouldings; and between each pair of basket-bearers stood a larger statue, selected from the sculpture gallery of the Crystal Palace. Griffins, shrubs, rich carpeting, and gas-lustres to conquer the fog, which, happily, did not show, completed the decorations. On one side of the pavilion the band of the Blues was stationed, and, under the skilful leadership of Mr. Charles Godfrey, enlivened the assembled company with the sprightly strains of Offenbach, and a charming arrangement from Hervé's latest opera, "Le Petit Faust." At the City end military and volunteer bands were also stationed, and in a much-noticed gallery were six or seven hundred boys from the Bluecoat and other City schools, with their own band, which played strenuously throughout the morning. At the Holborn end, the site in "Holborn-circus" in which is to be placed a statue of the Prince Consort was rallied off, and large plaster casts, intended to represent France and Britannia, had been set up. Britannia did not arrive until late in the day, having, as we understood, met with an accident in the morning. But the fractures were all repaired, and the distinguished lady was placed in good order and condition on her pedestal in ample time to receive her august Sovereign. At this end of the Viaduct have been erected the only two private establishments which are yet completed, and both these, especially that belong to Messrs. Negretti and Zambra, were profusely decorated, while all their windows were occupied by parties of ladies and gentlemen.

The particular ceremony for which all this preparation had been made was of the shortest possible duration. At about eleven o'clock three squadrons of the 1st Life Guards, under the command of Colonel Bateman, with trumpeters in state uniforms and silver trumpets, passed up the Viaduct and right through the pavilion en route to escort the coming procession. Things went on in this way with average monotony until twenty-five minutes past twelve, when the blare of the trumpets and the cheers of the people, floating as it were in the air, announced that the Queen was approaching. The members of the Common Council rushed to and fro, their blue

marzine gowns floating in the breeze; the Aldermen cocked their cocked hats more fiercely, and formed masses on the platform; and the City policemen exhibited the usual excitement of the force on great occasions by flinging their arms wildly in the air like so many distracted scamplores, running hither and thither, and having frequent collisions with each other and with the public, and finally collapsing into mild resignation and an apparent determination to let the incidents of the coming procession take their natural course. The pavilion became now the centre of attraction. Everyone took his or her seat and there was a moment of tension and expectation. Then slowly passed on the carriages of the Common Council, a tolerably long cortège. After them came those of the Aldermen and other higher civic dignitaries, and finally the Lord Mayor, in carriage and four, from which his Lordship descended to the platform, and awaited the approach of his Sovereign. Next followed a brilliant escort of Life Guards, and finally her Majesty drove up in an open carriage, and bowed graciously to the cheering of her subjects. The Queen looked well, as everyone was delighted to notice, but the time was short that her Majesty remained before the platform. The Lord Mayor made his obeisance, the Aldermen closed in, and a strong flanking party was formed by the members of the Common Council, who were also members of the building committee. It was understood that the Lord Mayor presented Mr. Deputy Fry, the chairman of the Holborn Viaduct Building Committee, and Mr. Haywood, the architect and engineer, and that the Queen addressed a few gracious words to the former; but the attendant public, who had expected to see the ceremony of a double accolade, were doomed to disappointment—a disappointment which we are bound to add found very general expression after the Royal cortège had swept away. We could see Mr. Fry presenting a large volume splendidly bound in cream-coloured morocco, relieved with gold, and the Royal arms of England in mosaic of leather and gold. This magnificent book, which is the work of Messrs. Howell and James, contains, we were subsequently informed, the names of Messrs. Fry and Haywood, and a finely-executed painting in tempera of the Viaduct Bridge, looking from Farringdon-street. The fourth page is devoted to representations of the handsome new buildings which ornament the four corners of the bridge, with their mediæval statuary, including the effigy of Henry Fitz-Alwyne, the happy Lord Mayor who was allowed to occupy the civic throne for twenty-three consecutive years, and to give banquets throughout the whole time at the Mansion House of the period. The remaining pages of the book are filled with a history of the building, engrossed in church text, the margins being ornamented in brilliant colouring and relieved with punctured gold in the Renaissance style. The last page contains the autograph of the Chairman of the Improvement Committee, with, opposite to it, on the same page, his heraldic bearings in gold and colours. As soon as the book had been presented, and the presentations had taken place, the Lord Mayor, and his Lordship's whole civic entourage, rather precipitately left the platform, and her Majesty was kept waiting some time in a way which Lord Dunderbury would observe, "No fellow could understand." The company buzzed and whispered, the Queen looked slightly nervous and impatient, but at length the mystery was explained, and the Royal cavalcade moved away. The Lord Mayor and Aldermen had left thus suddenly in order that they might reach their carriages in time to escort her Majesty beyond the City precincts—an act which was to be the ceremonial closing of the day's proceedings. The Royal carriage passed slowly on, the Queen bowed and smiled, the company cheered vociferously, and in a few minutes more the pageant of the Holborn Viaduct opening had terminated.

DEATH OF MR. PEABODY.

We deeply regret to state that Mr. George Peabody died at half-past eleven on Thursday night week.

The deceased gentleman was born in the city of Danvers, Massachusetts, on Feb. 18, 1795. The name is supposed to be a singular corruption of a French patronymic; but, as far as records go, the family is of English origin. According to some accounts, it was settled, several centuries ago, in Leicestershire; according to others, at St. Albans. In the thirteenth century the name was spelt Pabody; and the Pabodys of Hertfordshire seem to have been respectable yeomen. In 1633 Francis Pabody left this country for New England. He was, in fact, one of the "Pilgrim Fathers" who helped to found that State. Being at that time only twenty-one years of age, he had all the energies of youth to devote to the work of colonisation, and when he died, in the year 1698, at a ripe old age, he left behind him a large fortune and a family which acquired a distinguished position in the colony. Several members acted with patriotic zeal in the War of Independence, and the name has often been seen in connection with literature and science as well as commerce. George Peabody, the subject of the present notice, began his business life at the age of eleven, when he was entered as a junior clerk in a grocery store at Danvers. Four years later, the lad proving to be a smart young fellow with an ambition beyond "groceries," he became an apprentice to his elder brother, at Newbury Port; but this business being brought to a close after a short time, the boy went to live with his uncle at George Town. The war with Great Britain was at that time going on, for it was the year 1812, and the uncle was a volunteer soldier, and speedily a General. George served under him, and was engaged at Fort Warburton; but at the close of the short war he returned to his original pursuits and became a merchant in the city of Baltimore, with branch houses at Philadelphia and New York. He succeeded so well that, with the generosity distinguishing him throughout his life, he charged himself with the maintenance and education of his father's family. In the course of years he thought he could still further extend his business by coming to England. He first visited this country in 1837, and ultimately settled in London in 1843, as a merchant and money-broker. His business was of the same general description as that of the Rothschilds; but it dealt solely, or nearly so, with American interests. "In this capacity," says a memoir of Mr. Peabody in the last edition of "Men of the Time," "his name has been a guarantee for many monetary transactions on the part of more than one of the United States, and in 1848 he largely contributed to the restoration of the credit of Maryland." But business was not his only thought. When a mere youth he had made this solemn vow:—"If God spares my life, and prospers me in business, then the property of which I may become possessed I will devote to his glory in seeking the good of my fellow-men wherever their claims may seem most to rest upon me." That vow has been faithfully and nobly kept; and, unlike those who wait for their death to redistribute the riches they can no longer enjoy, Mr. Peabody has benefited others with almost unparalleled munificence, while yet he could direct the streams of his bounty and watch the effects of his splendid gifts. In 1851, while residing in England, he supplied, at his own cost, the arranging and garnishing of the United States department of the Great Exhibition. He contributed, in the following year, to the expense of the American expedition, fitted out under Dr. Kane, for inquiring into the fate of Sir John Franklin in the Arctic Seas. In the same year he revisited his native city of Danvers, and founded there, at a cost of £30,000, an educational institution for the benefit of his fellow-townsmen. In 1857 he built and endowed in Baltimore an institution mainly devoted to science, and including a free library, which several years ago had already cost him more than £100,000. Magnificent, however, as were these acts, they were quite cast into the shade by that which he afterwards did for the London poor. On retiring from business, in 1862, he presented the city of London with the sum of £150,000, to be applied to the benefit of the working classes by the erection of comfortable and convenient lodging-houses; and this sum was doubled in February, 1866, by the gift of another £150,000. What rendered this act of bounty the more beautiful and touching in spirit was that it occurred at a time when, owing to the civil war and the Trent affair, a good deal of ill-feeling existed

between Great Britain and America. Mr. Charles Reed, M.P., in a speech delivered in Guildhall on May 21, 1862, on the occasion of conferring the freedom of the city of London on Mr. Peabody, said with great truthfulness and point:—

Here is a man, a denizen of our city, bound to us by no ties but those of common humanity, at a crisis when some men delight themselves in reviving the memory of ancient jealousies, talking fiercely of national animosities and implacable hates, who stands out and rebukes our unworthy suspicions by an act of kindness to our poor, which brings the blush of shame to our cheeks when we think of merchant princes of our own who, living, have been strangely insensible to the claims of Christian charity, and, dying, have left no trace behind.

The same speaker said further of Mr. Peabody:—

He has made himself familiar with distress in order to learn how best to mitigate woe; he has become acquainted by personal investigation with the overwhelming vicissitudes of the labouring poor that he might ameliorate their condition; and he has given a practical illustration of the way to do good, which leaves all our busy theorists far behind.

The freedom of other cities besides London was conferred on Mr. Peabody; and her Majesty, learning that that was the only form of acknowledgment he would accept, addressed to him a letter expressing her sense of the grandeur of his gift. This letter is well worth reproducing at the present moment. It ran as follows:—

Windsor Castle, March 28, 1866.

The Queen hears that Mr. Peabody intends shortly to return to America, and she would be sorry that he should leave England without being assured by herself how deeply she appreciates the noble act of more than princely munificence by which he has sought to relieve the wants of her poorer subjects residing in London. It is an act, as the Queen believes, wholly without parallel, and which will carry its best reward in the consciousness of having contributed so largely to the assistance of those who can little help themselves. The Queen would not, however, have been satisfied without giving Mr. Peabody some public mark of her sense of his munificence, and she would gladly have conferred upon him either a Baronetcy or the grand cross of the Order of the Bath, but that she understands Mr. Peabody to feel himself debarred from accepting such distinctions. It only remains, therefore, for the Queen to give Mr. Peabody this assurance of her personal feelings, which she would further wish to mark by asking him to accept a miniature portrait of herself, which she will desire to have painted for him, and which, when finished, can either be sent to him to America or given to him on his return, which she rejoices to hear he meditates, to the country that owes him so much.

Mr. Peabody's reply was not without a certain graceful and kindly epigram in the close, where he says:—"The portrait which your Majesty is graciously pleased to bestow upon me I shall value as the most precious heirloom that I can leave in the land of my birth, where, together with the letter which your Majesty has addressed to me, it will ever be regarded as an evidence of the kindly feeling of the Queen of the United Kingdom towards a citizen of the United States."

Mr. Peabody evinced throughout these proceedings a great dislike of publicity, from which he shrank with the utmost delicacy of perception. He lived in great retirement and simplicity, and only once appeared in public, when he presented himself at the close of the Working Classes Industrial Exhibition in the Guildhall, and received an ovation worthy of the man and of his work. As our readers know, a bronze statue of the great philanthropist has been erected close to the Royal Exchange. The first block of buildings erected with Mr. Peabody's money was opened in 1861 in Spitalfields, and since then other blocks have been built in Chelsea, Brompton, Islington, and Shadwell. They are not intended for habitual paupers, but, like Miss Burdett Coutts's dwellings, are designed for working men and their families, especially for those who have been crowded out of their old houses by the recent metropolitan alterations. "These buildings," said a well-informed writer, a short time ago, "occupy 176,931 square feet, and at present there are 680 persons enjoying the benefits of comfortable houses, at a cost ranging from two shillings and sixpence to five shillings a week, according to the class of the apartments: five shillings giving three good rooms, in a house drained, ventilated, with water supplies, and dust regularly removed, with baths and laundries, wringing-machines and drying-rooms, with gas free of cost. Every kitchen is provided with cupboards, an oven, and a boiler; and the families being selected upon the principle of excluding all persons of known immoral conduct and intemperate habits, parents are able to enjoy the sight of their children's sports, no longer in the pent-up alleys and dangerous streets, but in ample and airy spaces which form the playgrounds." The tenants of these buildings are, with but rare exceptions, remarkable for their decent and orderly conduct.

Shortly after his second magnificent gift Mr. Peabody left England for his native country, where he resided some time, and where he presented to Harvard University 150,000 dolars, to establish a museum and professorship of American archaeology and ethnology. The United States Congress, in March, 1867, passed a vote of thanks to him for his gifts to the people; but the highest reward of such a man is in the consciousness of great gifts gloriously used, and great riches converted into mighty and prolific blessings.

A funeral service for Mr. Peabody was performed in Westminster Abbey yesterday. The remains of the deceased philanthropist will be taken to America for interment in the same grave with those of his mother, at his native place.

THE COTTON TRADE OF PRESTON is showing signs of improvement. Some mills are already running full time, and others are to follow. In those factories where the hands are not yet on full time the hours of labour have been extended as much as possible.

ST. PANCRAS INFIRMARY.—Some painful disclosures illustrative of the manner in which the poor are housed in the St. Pancras Infirmary were made at an inquest before Dr. Lankester on Monday. A man, thirty-two years of age, who had been placed in one of the wards, died from consumption, and the evidence showed that the atmosphere was of the most vitiated nature. The jury found that the man's death had been accelerated by the want of fresh air, and expressed a hope that the guardians would direct their attention to the state of the receiving-ward. The atmosphere of the St. Pancras workhouse appears to have been fatal to seven more of the unfortunate inmates. Inquests were held on Wednesday on six women and a youth, and the jury in two cases returned verdicts to the effect that death was accelerated by the over-crowded state of the wards and the vitiated atmosphere. The other cases were adjourned.

THE MASTERSHIP OF RUGBY SCHOOL.—The following is an official list of the gentlemen who have offered themselves as candidates for the head mastership of Rugby School, about to become vacant by the elevation of the Rev. Dr. F. Temple to the Bishopric of Exeter:—Mr. Theodore Walrond, M.A., of Balliol College, Oxford; the Rev. John Percival, M.A., of Queen's College, Oxford, head master of Clifton College, Bristol; the Rev. Arthur Henry Faber, M.A., of New College, Oxford, head master of Malvern College, Worcestershire; the Rev. Henry Highton, M.A., of Queen's College, Oxford, late Principal of Cheltenham College; the Rev. Albert Henry Wratiaslaw, M.A., of Christ's College, Cambridge, head master of the Grammar School, Bury St. Edmunds; the Rev. William Wayte, M.A., of King's College, Cambridge, assistant master in Eton College; the Rev. Herbert Snow, M.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge, assistant master in Eton College; the Rev. Edward Charles Wickham, M.A., Fellow and Tutor of New College, Oxford; and the Rev. Henry Hayman, B.D., of St. John's College, Oxford, head master of St. Andrew's College, Bradford. The election will be held in the course of a few days.

DEATH OF M. EUGENE FORCADE.—M. Eugène Forcade, whose death occurred last Saturday, though a comparatively young man (he was only forty-nine), may fairly be called one of the oldest journalists in Europe. He established in Marseilles, his native town, one of the best known of French provincial newspapers, the *Semaphore*, when he was not more than seventeen years of age, and continued to edit it for three years (from 1837 to 1840), attending at the same time to his duties as clerk in a bank. His reputation had preceded him to Paris, and he was at once invited to join the staff of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. His connection with that journal only terminated about a year since, when his mental powers broke down under the weight of work which he imposed upon them. The fortnightly review of politics which M. Forcade contributed to the *Revue* was something unique in journalism, and for comprehensiveness, terseness, and brilliancy it has never been surpassed. The luminous compendium of contemporary events which on the 1st and 15th of every month was wont to appear with his signature was the first part of the *Revue* which every reader turned to, and its perusal was always a treat. He wrote with great moderation of language, but with terrible force of sarcasm occasionally, against the Imperial system, and once or twice got his chief into trouble. To the journal whose fame he did so much to increase his death is an irreparable loss, and the small band of moderate Liberals who still write in French newspapers will mourn one of the most able and esteemed of their colleagues.

Literature.

Twilight Hours: a Legacy of Verse. By SARAH WILLIAMS (Sadie). With a Memoir by E. H. Plumptre, M.A. London: Strahan and Co.

This is a deeply interesting volume of poetic remains by a young lady of genius who died not long ago, under circumstances which we will permit the delicate pen of Mr. Plumptre to describe:—

She had had to make the choice, so often forced upon sufferers, between the certainty of long, lingering agony and the possibility of deliverance from it, accompanied by the risk of a more immediate close. Acting on the counsel of friends and medical advisers, she embraced the latter alternative, with apparently a foreboding clear to herself, though not disclosed to others, of what the end would be. And so the end came; and she slept and was at rest.

She was not only a poet, she was a fine humourist, and the "Foozy Papers" in the *Argosy* will long be remembered by all who read them. Some of the poems have great beauty and subtlety. We scarcely know whether to select for extract "Yeoman Service" or "Discharged Honourably;" but our readers will thank us for the following little song:—

AGAINST TEARS.

This world is all too sad for tears,
I would not weep, not I,
But smile along my life's short road,
Until I, smiling, die.

The little flowers breathe sweetness out
Through all the dewy night;
Should I more churlish be than they,
And 'plain for constant light?

Not so, not so, no load of woe,
Need bring despairing frown;
For while we bear it, we can bear,
Past that, we lay it down.

One of the reviewers said he found an accent of patronage in Mr. Plumptre's prefatory words; but we fail to discover it. We fancy we observe one account of misquotation in "pious stragglers" from the Church, on page 12. Is not this meant for the "pious varieties" of Mr. Tennyson's "Sea Dreams"? However, this little memoir appears to us to be written with all Mr. Plumptre's usual delicacy, charity, and wisdom, and it assuredly contains some very striking extracts from Sadie's letters. Of these we will take a few:—

Bertie's sister Daisy said rather a good thing the other day. She was troublesome, and her mamma said, "Daisy, if you bother me so I shall give you to the butcher, and then what will you do?" "Then I shall better the butcher," said Daisy, tranquilly. Tolerably cool and clear for two years old—at least, she is not three yet.

We had a visitation, yesterday, from a cousin, aged eleven, who talks of demanding a latch-key, because it is "such a nuisance," he says, "to be fetched home directly after supper." He is rather a young Philistine.

Bertie gave me his views of his future career, to the effect that if cabmen have a monument in St. Paul's he will be a cabman; if not, a general.

I am afraid you will not be so romantic as our old postman, who, when somebody once sent me a Rimmel's Almanack, begged for the almanack to lay among his things, to give him pleasant fancies. Poor fellow! he died of the gout not long after.

Are not these irrepressibly charming? So is this:—

Somebody asked me once what I should do if I found myself at the head of a household? I said "Abdicate," with the pomptitude of instinct! but even that is not possible with such dreadfully conscientious people, who will not impose upon one comfortably.

And this:—

This is a curiously-independent little district; everyone follows his own sweet will, and things happen according to a fortuitous concurrence of atoms. The police are so unpopular that the mids have all taken to smile on the postmen, and the result is not to facilitate the delivery of letters. I saw one beaming youth emerge from an area some fifteen minutes late, his bag thrown contemptuously across his shoulder, and his radiant gaze bent upon a photograph. Of course, under such circumstances, I yielded, in contented acquiescence, on receiving a letter addressed "J. Woodhouse, Esq.," while my own poor letter wandered off into space.

Sadie seems to have discerned, with profoundly accurate vision, her own sphere of work—"the exceptionally natural;" and had evidently what we may call a self-checking mind. When Mr. Babbage was asked, before a Parliamentary Committee, whether, if a question were wrongly put in his calculating-machine, the machine would still give a correct answer, he candidly answered—No; and probably without laughing out loud at the question. Sadie had a mind which gave right answers to wrong questions—a self-checking nature. On the whole, we have great pleasure in recommending this extremely attractive and beautiful volume. What we should like to see would be a volume containing, along with Sadie's best prose, a few of these poems—the best of them only; for some of them are so imperfect that they scarcely act even as foils to those which are very good.

Miss Langley's Will: a Tale. 2 vols. Second Edition.

London: Rivingtons.

There is something about a certain class of novels which "no fellow can understand." Here, for instance, we have a novel of the stock Minerva-Press school of fashionable tale, which has absolutely nothing to recommend it save that it is told in tolerably good English, which has yet passed into a second edition in the ordinary circulating-library form, and which, we confess, has even beguiled ourselves into reading it from beginning to end. How should this be? The novel has not even an author's name on the titlepage. There is in it nothing whatever that one has not met with in hundreds of other works of a like character. The incidents are commonplace to the last degree—not a single personage among the *dramatis personæ* exhibits peculiarities that can distinguish him or her from the ordinary herd of Marquises and Marchionesses, Dukes and Duchesses, Lords This and Ladies That, who usually figure in fashionable novels, and who alone cut any prominent figure in this book. There is in "Miss Langley's Will," to be sure, a covert vein of sarcasm at the expense of the grand people whose sayings and doings it records; but this is so well concealed, if, indeed, it was at all intended, that the ordinary novel-reader is not likely to discover it; while, nevertheless, it imparts the only element of piquancy the book possesses. Making full allowance for this and its smooth-running style—the two distinguishing characteristics of this tale—we are yet at a loss to understand how it ever obtained such a sale as to warrant the issue of a second edition when thousands of others, equally good, fall almost stillborn from the press, and never get into any other circulation than that afforded by "the libraries." One lesson only—and it is a somewhat ill-natured one—might be deduced from "Miss Langley's Will," and that is, that "most noble" personages, as depicted by this author, are often most ignoble in their sentiments, and that "their graces" of both sexes are occasionally rather graceless in their conduct to those around them—that is, if we may presume to judge them by a really pure standard of moral, not fashionable, etiquette.

Songs of a Wayfarer. By WILLIAM DAVIES. London: Longmans and Co.

Though the name of the author of these "Songs of a Wayfarer" is new to us, his appearance in the paths of literature is not the less pleasing on that account, for his productions really merit a hearty "Well-come" from all who relish sweet sentiments sweetly expressed—merits which may be met with on almost every page of the book. Mr. Davies is not a robust poet; neither does he affect profundity of thought, nor the trick of pretending to wrap up hidden or second meanings under apparently simply-natural sentiments and emotions, as has become a good deal the fashion of late with certain poets, or would-be poets. He is what he calls himself—a wayfarer who sings as he goes, finding his themes in the objects he encounters and the feelings these objects excite. He is, therefore, a natural poet—that is, a poet of nature; though, perhaps, few critics will be disposed to rank him among great poets. But he is nevertheless a true poet, whose acquaintance

we are very well pleased to make; and we say this notwithstanding that faulty images, limping lines, and false rhymes may occasionally be met with in his pieces. Of the first we respectfully submit that an instance is afforded on page 1, where we are told that honey-throated nightingales:

Chant from brake and bursting bough;

for a little reflection will satisfy the observer of nature that it is the buds on the bough, and not the bough itself, that can be described as "bursting." Of limping lines the piece entitled "Carliola Alolo" affords a specimen in the following lines, which, although not consecutive, rhyme to each other:—

Fair is the fairest and foul far away.

The sweet summer uses all the merry day.

That last line, to our fancy, has a decided halt in its gait. The same piece, too, exhibits an instance of a false rhyme in the line

What bravest balladry wild with love's revelry;

for "balladry" and "revelry" can never be made to "clink," even though both words do terminate with "ry." Furthermore, "morning skies" and "influences" (page 16) must surely be pronounced a questionable rhyme.

These, however, are small faults, and our remarks, perhaps, are a little hypercritical; but we could not help noting such indications of haste or carelessness in a writer who, as a rule, has such a fine command of language as Mr. Davies, to whom we not only offer a hearty welcome to the realms of poesy, but predict for him a warm reception and a lasting place in popular esteem. To give our readers a taste of Mr. Davies's quality, we had selected a pretty little piece touching certain "ripe apples that hung on a tree;" but as that poem has already been quoted by a contemporary, we take instead, almost at random, a little song which expresses, we fear, the sad fate that awaits many a maiden's love, if told prematurely:—

MAID MARGERY.

Maid Margery went to the rivulet's edge
(Like Midas the king) one day,
And whispered a word to the rushes and sedge:
Just whispered, and went away.
Then her lover stepped down to the rivulet's edge
To inquire what she did say:
I love my true love, repeated the sedge:
I will love him for ever and aye.

But winter came freezing the rivulet's edge,
And clouding the summer day:
And though to the storm-wind the whistling sedge
Kept singing and crying away—
I love my love, and his faith is my pledge:
I will love him for ever and aye:
Yet nobody came to the rivulet's edge
To listen to what it might say.

A HEAVY SNOWSTORM occurred on Wednesday in the northern part of Yorkshire and Durham, the face of the country being covered with snow for some miles.

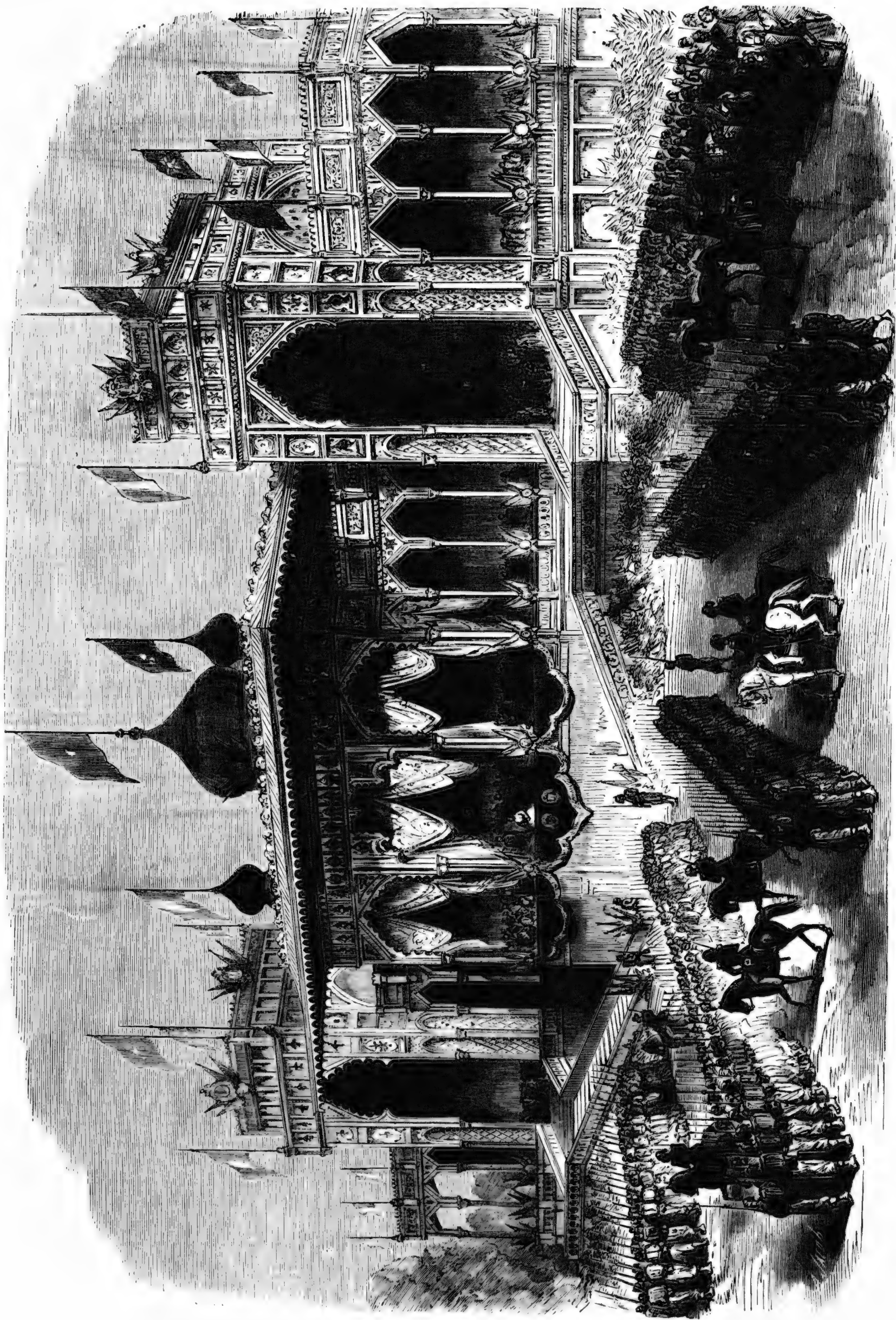
WINTERING DAHLIA ROOTS.—Cut the stems down to within six inches of the ground after the frost has destroyed the foliage, and then lift them carefully and place them in a dry shed where they can be kept perfectly dry and secure from frost. In sharp frosty weather cover the roots with dry hay or litter.—*The Gardener's Magazine.*

SERIOUS ACCIDENT FROM PLAYING WITH GUNPOWDER.—On Monday night, about a quarter past eight, as a number of boys were playing in Spencer-place, Goswell-road, one of the number picked up a small tin can weighing about half a pound. After throwing it about, it was agreed that they should see if it would light; consequently, a young boy of the name of Richard Pack bent down and put a lighted match to it. It at once ignited; and, as it contained gunpowder, a loud explosion took place, blowing some windows out of neighbouring shops. The boys who were standing near received very severe injuries about the face, the worst of the cases being Richard Pack, who lighted the powder. He was picked up insensible, and taken to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where he now lies in a very precarious condition.

"ATTIC SALT."—A German paper tells an amusing story of a trick played the other day on a landowner in an agricultural district of Silesia. This gentleman, a Herr Schrei, had a quarrel with a neighbour, which led to a long correspondence, and in one of his letters he greatly provoked his antagonist by speaking ironically of the "Attic salt" with which he flavoured his epistolary style. A few days after there appeared in the local paper the following advertisement:—"Attic salt and other salts for cattle may always be obtained at my farm.—SCHREI." This advertisement immediately attracted the attention of a zealous official, who was employed in the district to administer the salt monopoly of the Government, and he directed one of his subordinates to go at once to Herr Schrei's farm and search the premises for the salt in question. The subordinate, after going all over the farm and looking in every corner for the smuggled commodity, reported as follows:—"Having learnt from the local paper that a foreign salt under the name of 'Attic salt' had been imported into this district, I searched the house and farm of the farmer Schrei, who had been suspected of the fraud; but no trace of Attic salt was to be found about him."

THE EMPRESS EUGENIE IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

We last week published an account of the cordial reception given to the Empress of the French on her arrival at Constantinople, of which event we now publish an illustration. The subsequent incidents of her Majesty's sojourn in the capital of the Ottoman Empire were no less interesting. A correspondent says:—On Thursday, Oct. 14, at eleven a.m., the Sultan Valide visited the Empress at the Palace of Beglerbey, and in the afternoon her Majesty went to Stamboul, where she was respectfully, and indeed enthusiastically, received by thousands of true believers. I do not think there could have been less than ten thousand Turkish men and women in the court of the Seraglio when the Empress arrived, and she appeared to charm them all by the condescension and elegance of her manner. The women were even more excited than the men; and one old lady, replying to the remarks of her *gashmak* companions, relative to the absence of State ceremonial, cried out, "She does not want the *Saltanat* (Imperial Parade), for she has it in herself; she carries it with her in her lovely face and graceful form." Her Majesty, simply dressed in blue silk, with a small white hat, was in an open carriage drawn by four horses, and accompanied by Djemil Pacha, Ottoman Ambassador to Paris, and the maids of honour, Mdle. Marion and Mdle. Lermine. Prince Murat; M. Bourée, French Ambassador to the Porte; Kiamil Bey, Grand Master of the Ceremonies; and General Donay were in a second carriage; the rest of her Majesty's suite following in other court equipages, but without any state display beyond an escort of mounted gendarmes. The Palace of Top-Capon, the mosques of Saint Sophia and Sultan Selim, the Bazaar, the tomb of Sultan Mahmoud, and the *Hasné*, or Imperial Treasury, were successively visited. Her Majesty appeared to take great interest in some of the costly curiosities accumulated in the latter building, particularly the rich collection of ancient armour and coats of mail worn by the Sultans, the most remarkable of which is that of Sultan Murad II, the conqueror of Bagdad. The headpiece of this suit is of gold and silver, almost covered with precious stones; the diadem surrounding the turban is composed of three emeralds of the purest water, and about seven to eight centimetres in size, while the collar is formed of twenty-two large and magnificent diamonds. In the *Hasné* there is a curious ornament in the shape of an elephant in massive gold, standing on a pedestal of enormous pearls placed side by side. There is also the table, thickly inlaid with Oriental topazes, presented by Catherine of Russia to the Vizier Baltadji Mustapha, and a very remarkable collection of ancient costumes, trimmed with rare furs, and literally covered with precious stones. The divans and cushions formerly used in the throne-room of the Sultans were carefully inspected by the Empress and her ladies. The stuff of which the cushions are made is pure tissue of gold, without any mixture of silk whatever, and they are embroidered with pearls weighing each about 3600 drachmas. Children's cradles of solid gold, inlaid with precious stones; vases of immense value in rock crystal, gold, and silver, incrustated with rubies, emeralds, and diamonds; daggers, swords, and shields, beautifully wrought and richly jewelled, all tell a story of ancient wealth and grandeur, when the Ottoman Power was a reality, and Western Europe trembled before the descendant of the son of Amurath.



THE EMPRESS EUGENIE IN THE EAST: GRAND REVIEW AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

NOV. 13, 1869

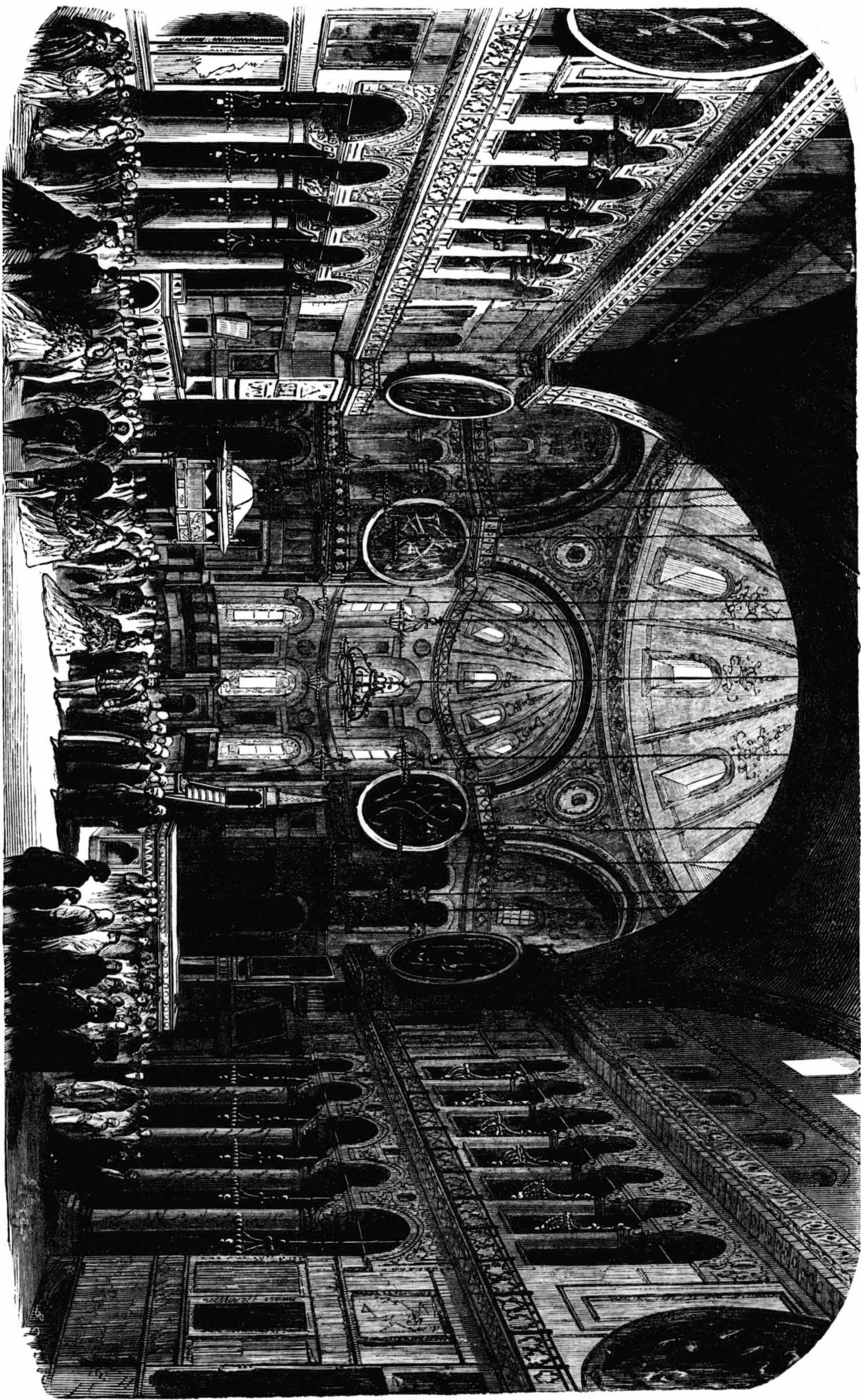
The magnificent reception, national it may in every respect be termed, given to the Empress, culminated on Saturday, Oct. 16, in a grand review of the troops at Huniari-lakelessy. The Fort, as well as the public offices, was closed, and the Bosphorus was covered from an early hour with innumerable steamers and caiques, bearing thousands of eager holiday-makers to the beautiful valley of Beloce. About two p.m. the Sultan and the Empress arrived at the Kloek constructed for the occasion, and as soon as the Imperial party were seated the march past began. The Kloek is a magnificent specimen of Moorish architecture. On the right, where the Empress sat, floated the Imperial flag of France, with its

golden bees; and on the left, over the Sultan's head, a gentle breeze from the Euxine spread out the once formidable standard of the crescent and the star. The entrance was draped with crimson and green velvet, the Turkish colours, richly embroidered in gold; and as their Majesties took their seats upon the verandah, surrounded with their respective suites, the immense multitude burst forth into a long-continued and hearty cheer. During two hours the troops, consisting of about 20,000 men, continued to debile before the Padiashaw and his illustrious guest, the latter expressing to her evidently pleased host her pleasure at the splendid sight, and making from time to time some flattering remarks as the

admirably-equipped regiments of Circassians, lanciers, and light dragons passed by. After the review, which lasted until half-past four o'clock, the Sultan and the Empress, followed by their suites, drove in an open carriage to the ancient Kloek of Huniari-lakelessy, when they dined, and about 10 p.m. his Majesty conducted his lovely visitor back to her palace at Beglerbey. The wonderful beauty of the scene as her Majesty floated quickly down the current is said to have moved her deeply. The tents covering the hills of Beloce and the banks on both sides of the Bosphorus were lit up as if by enchantment. Fires burned all round the camp, and myriads of coloured lamps, festooned in every variety of design, shed a

soft light over the water, while from yats and ships flew thousands of rockets bursting in a blaze of diamond light. The fleet burned Bengal lights, and from Bayukdere to the Golden Horn torch and lamp outvied the brightness of the moon, which shone in a cloudless sky. To add to the wonders of the night a continued dropping fire was kept up by the troops on the heights of Yoni-Kani, Kalandey, and Therapia, which was answered by the artillery in the distance, the whole appearing rather like a scene from the "Arabian Nights" than a reality of our every-day life. The fair Mossallir said to her Imperial host as he handed her ashore, that she felt as if in a delicious dream from which she had no desire to awake.

VISIT OF THE EMPRESS EUGENIE TO THE MOSQUE OF ST. SOPHIA, CONSTANTINOPLE.



OPERA AND CONCERTS.

NOTHING remarkable and nothing at all new has yet been produced at the Royal Italian Opera. Nevertheless, the performance on the opening night was an agreeable enough entertainment. The bill was composed of "Lucia," with Middle di Murska in the part of the heroine, and Signor Mongini in that of Edgardo. Signor Mongini, however, was ill, and was replaced at the last moment by a young and inexperienced tenor named Della Rocca; Ashton (or Astone), Signor Cotogut.

The Monday Popular Concerts—at which are to be heard the best possible performances of chamber music that can be heard anywhere—were resumed this week, when the programme included Mendelssohn's quintet in D major; Beethoven's sonata in B flat, for piano; Mozart's sonata in B flat, for pianoforte and violin; Haydn's quartet in D minor, with vocal pieces by Beethoven ("Penitence") and by Mendelssohn ("Zuleika.") The exccutants were Madame Norman-Néruda, (first violin), Mr. L. Ries (second violin), Mr. Zerbini (viola), and Signor Piatti (violinello). It is often interesting to hear an author's opinion of his own work; and Mendelssohn himself says of his quartet in D major, in a letter to his friend Herr David of Leipzig: "I have just finished it, and like it much. May it only please you as well! I almost think it will, for it will be more spirited, and seems more likely to please the players than the others." Madame Norman-Néruda's admirable execution of the leading violin part in the said quartet was appreciated and enthusiastically applauded. As to Mozart's duet sonata, it must have struck every one present as peculiarly appropriate for the occasion, it having been originally produced for himself, and above all, for a lady—Madame Strinasacchi—of whose playing the composer wrote that it was "remarkable for taste and expression." What would he have said if he could have heard Madame Norman-Néruda?

The following ingenious letter on the subject of the orchestral arrangement of Mendelssohn's ottet—performed at the Crystal Palace, not as an ottet, but as a symphony for the full band—has been addressed by Mr. Manns to an ideal purist styled Richter:—

My dear Richter,—Your praiseworthy efforts to uphold the purity of musical art induce you to request me to state "Why I decide to perform Mendelssohn's ottet in a symphonic manner," and "How I mean to justify my questionable propriety of adding double basses—that is to say, a ninth part to the eight-part score?" My answer to your first question is that Mendelssohn himself has indicated, in a note printed on the published parts, that he wishes his work to be rendered, in regard to expression, &c., like a symphony, and not in a style usual for chamber music. You will agree that this demand on the part of the author can be realised much more efficiently by sixty-four than eight instruments. But I have another reason for its reproduction in this way—viz., that the largeness of our room would make the charming work thoroughly unenjoyable if played by eight solo instruments, even if Jochim, the giant fiddler, were at the principal violin.

As to my addition of double basses, my experience of orchestral effects makes me bold enough to say that my infringement of the purity of musical art is in this case justified because it is necessary, for without the weight in the basses, which contra-bass alone can produce, my performance would be to the ear of musicians as unsatisfactory as the cathedral of Cologne would be to the eye of an architect if that colossal edifice were built only upon one pillar instead of a thoroughly sound foundation. Besides, I have not added a "ninth part," but only reinforced the author's own bass wherever it seemed necessary; and the first eight bass of the second cello will already show that giants and not dwarfs are required to rule the turbulent family of eight, whose different members seem so constantly struggling to have it each his own way.

You, perhaps, will say, after this explanation, "Why do you perform the work at all if the condition in which the immortal master left it to the world does not suit your room?" My answer to this is, that I have to provide instrumental music for more than three hundred days of each year, and that novelty has in such a case its peculiar charms, particularly in respect to the productions of our beloved Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, who, were he still amongst the living, would readily forgive me when I explained to him my motives for introducing his ottet to the audience of the Crystal Palace Saturday Concerts, even if my manner of reproducing it should somewhat infringe his lofty views of art. With these views I remain, my dear Richter, yours very truly,

AUGUST MANNS.

SAMUEL GREAVE, a farmer of Burton Wood, near Warrington, was shot dead in his milk-cart, on Thursday morning. The murder is supposed to have been committed by poachers.

RELIGION IN THE NAVY.—The Lords of the Admiralty, having received representations as to certain inconveniences experienced by ministers of religion in their spiritual ministrations to men in her Majesty's naval service who do not belong to the Church of England, have now decided that the commander-in-chief or senior officer at any port, upon receiving information from the minister of any denomination as to the place and hour of worship of such denomination, shall cause the same to be notified in the most convenient manner on board her Majesty's ships. Their Lordships have also intimated their desire, when the discipline of the ships will not be interfered with, that as large a proportion of men of good character as possible shall, while in the home ports, have leave from Saturday until Monday, so that there may be no restriction as to the place of worship they may wish to attend. Their Lordships have, at the same time, ordered that every restriction shall be removed whereby the entry of ministers of religion into naval hospitals and prisons had been hitherto interfered with, so that patients and prisoners who may desire to see the clergyman of the persuasion to which they belong may have every facility to do so.

MUNIFICENT LEGACIES.—The late Alexander Boeteuf, Esq., of Mow-road, Bayswater, whose will has just been proved under £60,000, has bequeathed the following munificent legacies to the several charitable and benevolent societies hereafter mentioned:—Miller's Orphanage, Birstal, £9000; London Orphan Asylum, £2000; Infant Orphan Asylum, Wanstead, £2000; Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Society, £5000; Royal National Life-Boat Institution, £10,000; Deaf and Dumb Institution, £2000; Indigent Blind Asylum, St. George's, £2000; Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, to be invested in Consols, and income to be applied to the benefit of the society, £10,000; Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum, £2000; Idiot Asylum, Earlwood, £2000; Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney, £2000; and the National Benevolent Institution, £1000. There are also an immediate legacy of £1000 to Mrs. Boeteuf, £50 to Sir Edward Perrott, Bart., as a "trifling souvenir;" £200 to Mrs. Theodora Duer, Sutherland; and £250 each to his "kind and excellent friends," Richard Lewis, Esq., of the Inner Temple, barrister-at-law, the well-known secretary of the Life-Boat Institution; and Charles Reeve, Esq., the manager of the Bloomsbury branch of the London and Westminster Bank, who are the acting executors, power being reserved to Mrs. Boeteuf, who is in delicate health, to prove at a future period. Except the legacies to Mrs. Boeteuf, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Reeves, which are to be paid immediately, the legacies are payable after the death of Mrs. Boeteuf, who had been married to Mr. Boeteuf nearly fifty years. The residue of the estate is to be divided in different proportions amongst the Life-Boat Society, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Reeve.

UNIVERSITY TESTS.—The Right Hon. W. E. Forster, M.P., being in Liverpool on Wednesday, for the purpose of delivering prizes at the Liverpool Institute in the evening, a deputation of influential gentlemen waited on him to urge the advisability of the Government reintroducing the University Tests Bill next Session, with a clause enabling Dissenters to enjoy collegiate emoluments without subscribing to any religious tests. Mr. Forster, in reply, said he thought whenever the question was brought forward it should be by Sir John Coleridge, who was peculiarly fitted to deal with it. The right hon. gentleman then added—"There is only one remark with regard to the future possibilities that you must allow me to make. Government, in undertaking a measure, have to consider three questions—first, whether they think the measure ought to be undertaken, whether it is good for the country; secondly, whether they think there is a reasonable prospect of their being able to pass it into law; and, thirdly, whether they have time—whether the Houses of Parliament can possibly find time for its consideration. Now, speaking solely for myself, and speaking, I should think, the opinion (though I have not had the opportunity of consulting them) of most, if not all, the members of the Cabinet, I should say the two first questions might be answered in the affirmative. As to the third question, there may be, and I think that you must yourselves consider that there may be, difficulties in answering it. Mr. Bright, in his eloquent remarks on this subject, said that the interests of the great middle class ought to be considered by the Government in relation to it, and undoubtedly they ought. It is not merely Irish questions that the House of Commons has to deal with in the coming Session. There are many other important questions; and I am quite sure the present Government would be greatly to blame if they did not undertake them. The number of questions pressing now on Parliament is becoming one of the greatest difficulties of the country. We had a very hard Session last year, or rather this year, and it appears to me we shall have a still harder one next year. I only make this remark because it is not possible for any set of men to do more than time admits of their doing. I myself trust that that will not be considered a reason by the Government for not bringing forward this year the measure now in question. I am most anxious that it should be brought forward; and I believe that, if it were brought forward, it would be successful."

THE REV. CANON DALE.

MR. GLADSTONE has paid a fitting compliment to literature as well as to theology by offering to Canon Dale the Deanery of Ely, vacant by the advancement of Dean Goodwin to the see of Carlisle. The son of respectable but not wealthy parents, Thomas Dale was born at Pentonville, at that time almost a country village, on Aug. 22, 1797, so that he has just completed his seventy-second year. He inherited much literary ability from his father, who was suddenly cut off in the prime of life, while editing a newspaper in the West Indies, leaving his son, then a child about six or seven years old, quite unprovided for. His mother had already died during his infancy. A presentation to Christ's Hospital, however, was obtained for the orphan through the influence of friends, and thus the future poet and divine was enabled to make his first start in life. He rose by degrees to the highest form in Christ's Hospital, then under Dr. Trollope, became a "Grecian" in due course, and ultimately found his way to Cambridge. In 1818, while still an undergraduate, he published "The Widow of Nain, and Other Poems," which were well received by the public and ran through several editions. In the following year appeared his "Outlaw of Taurus;" "Irad and Adah, a Tale of the Flood;" and "Specimens of a New Translation of the Psalms." By the profits of these works and by other labours of his pen Mr. Dale contrived to meet the expenses of his educational course at Cambridge and of his maintenance until he was of age to enter holy orders. Not long after taking his Bachelor's degree he was ordained by Dr. Howley, then Bishop of London, and for some time employed himself in taking pupils at Greenwich and afterwards at Beckenham, in Kent. He succeeded eminently as a private tutor, and in that capacity made many lasting friendships. But he did not allow the charge of his pupils to interfere with his parochial duties. For three years he acted as Curate of St. Michael's, Cornhill; in 1826 he was appointed assistant preacher at St. Bride's, Fleet-street; two years later he was elected to the evening lectureship at St. Sepulchre's, Snow-hill; and in 1830 he accepted the Incumbency of St. Matthew's Chapel, Denmark-hill, Camberwell. He had already acquired considerably to his fame as a poet and a scholar by an English verse translation of "Sophocles," published in 2 vols. 8vo, which was very highly commended by the Quarterly Review. In 1835, during the first brief Premiership of Sir Robert Peel, he had conferred on him the Vicarage of St. Bride's, Fleet-street, as "a clergyman of high character and eminent as a preacher." In this pulpit he became extremely popular; his church was crowded; and Sir Robert Peel himself, during the Parliamentary Session, was often to be seen among his congregation. In the early part of 1843 he was nominated by Bishop Blomfield to a prebendal stall in St. Paul's; and in the following month of October Sir Robert Peel again stood his friend, bestowing on him the canonry in the metropolitan cathedral which was vacated by the death of Canon Tate. Three years later he resigned St. Bride's, on accepting the larger and more important living of St. Pancras, which he held for more than ten years, and which he resigned some eight or nine years ago in order to facilitate the subdivision of its extensive area into a number of separate incumbencies. Already—viz., from 1840 to 1849—he had held what is known as the "Golden Lectureship" at St. Margaret's, Lothbury. Almost contemporaneous with his resignation of St. Pancras was his acceptance of the Rectory of the rural parish of Therfield, in Hertfordshire, which he has held from that date down to the present time. It should be added that for about two years, from 1828 to 1830, Mr. Dale acted as Professor of English Language and Literature in University College, London, and for three years subsequently held a similar post in King's College, under Dr. Lonsdale. He was also a Select Preacher at Cambridge on two or three separate occasions upwards of thirty years ago; and he has published, in addition to the works already mentioned, "Sermons Preached before the University of Cambridge," "The Golden Psalm," "Sermons preached at St. Bride's," "The Sabbath Companion," "The Good Shepherd," "The Domestic Liturgy," and an edition of Cowper's works, with critical remarks and a biography. It is said that Mr. Dale has declined the offered deanery.

THE NATIONAL EDUCATION LEAGUE.—At a meeting of the officers of the league, held on Monday, at Birmingham, a statement of the progress of the league's operations since the inaugural meeting was submitted. The total amount promised for the league fund is now £20,915, and it is proposed to raise £50,000 in this way, payable in ten years. The amount received up to Nov. 6 is £2792, and the membership has increased to 3275. The recent adhesions and subscriptions include the names of Professor Charles Darwin, Professor Max Muller, Oxford; Mr. Vernon Harcourt, M.P., Mr. Thomas Aveling, Mayor of Rochester; Mr. Baxter Langley, Alderman Challis, Reform Club, London; Mr. Hugh Mason, Ashton-under-Lyne, who sends a subscription for £500; Mr. F. S. de Carteret Bissan, F.R.S., London; Richard Shaen, M.A., Dr. Antonio Brady, and others. Branches have, since last report, been formed at Oxford University, Plymouth, Blackburn, Darwen, Dudley, Worcester, Reading, Ipswich, Middlesbrough, and Widnes. Branches are in course of formation at Glasgow, Belfast, Rugby, Derby, Brighton, Stockton, Wolverhampton, York, &c.

YOUTHFUL HEROISM.—The Royal Humane Society has just conferred its medal on two boys, aged respectively sixteen and fourteen, for saving life under circumstances of more than ordinary courage. The first of these was named Richard Batty, residing at Sheffield, and the occasion which elicited his gallantry was the following:—A few days ago two children named Prince, aged five and eleven years respectively, were playing together near to the Norfolk Bridge, Tinsley-road, Sheffield, when the elder one accidentally fell into the stream, which is 8 ft. deep, and the younger one, without hesitation, leaped in after him. Their cries for assistance alarmed the neighbourhood, and scores of persons hastened to the spot, many of whom were strong, able-bodied men. No rescue, however, was attempted until the boy Batty came up, everybody appearing paralysed. Without a moment's hesitation the lad hastily stripped himself and plunged into the water, which is very foul at the point where the accident happened. Both children had by this time disappeared, but after considerable trouble young Batty succeeded in reaching them, and brought them to the surface. They were locked in each other's arms, and quite insensible, and their preserver was too much exhausted to carry them to the side of the embankment; but he contrived to keep them above water until a ladder was obtained, and with difficulty the three were pulled out amid the cheers of those assembled. The other case was that of a boy fourteen years of age, named Charles Brown, who rescued a companion named Dewar from drowning. Several boys were bathing together at Ferry Pier, Kincardine, N.B., when Dewar got out of his depth and sank. Brown, seeing his danger, dived, and notwithstanding he was much impeded in his efforts by the frantic struggles of the drowning boy, brought him safely ashore, both of them being much exhausted.

DUELING MADE RIDICULOUS.—The following statement has appeared in the Dublin newspapers:—"In consequence of a speech delivered by Mr. G. H. Moore, at Navan, in reply to The O'Donoghue's letter to the Amnesty Association, The O'Donoghue sent a hostile message to Mr. Moore, demanding a meeting in France or Belgium. Mr. Moore replied, naming Major Lynch as his friend, and stating that Major Lynch would proceed at once to the Burlington Hotel, London, where he would wait the arrival of The O'Donoghue's friend, for the purpose of arranging a hostile meeting, as proposed. On Nov. 3 Major Lynch received a letter from Mr. P. J. Smith, on the part of The O'Donoghue, asking him to appoint a place of meeting. On the same day Major Lynch wrote to Mr. Smith appointing Boulogne for the purpose in question, and stating that he would meet Mr. Smith on Friday afternoon at Boulogne. On Friday morning Mr. P. J. Smith expressed to Major Lynch a wish that an interview should take place between them for the purpose of avoiding, if possible, the necessity of proceeding to the Continent. Mr. Smith expressed his willingness to withdraw The O'Donoghue's letter to Mr. Moore in case an arrangement could be carried out between them; and Major Lynch agreed in the same case to withdraw Mr. Moore's letter in reply to The O'Donoghue. These preliminaries having been complied with, Mr. Smith asked for a withdrawal of certain passages referring to The O'Donoghue, contained in Mr. Moore's speech at the Navan meeting; and Major Lynch having drawn his attention to the expression in The O'Donoghue's letter to the Amnesty Association, which Mr. Moore believed were intended to apply to him, and to which that speech was a reply, Mr. Smith assured Major Lynch that The O'Donoghue's letter to the Amnesty Association was not intended to apply to Mr. Moore personally. Major Lynch, on the part of Mr. Moore, had no hesitation in declaring that, if Mr. Moore, at the Navan meeting, used words calculated to impute dishonourable motives to The O'Donoghue in the discharge of his public duty, he did not consider himself justified in making any such imputation; and, as for his allusion to The O'Donoghue's Irish distinction, Mr. Moore disclaimed any intention of casting a sneer upon the ancient family of The O'Donoghue.—P. C. LYNCH, P. J. SMITH, Burlington Hotel, London, Nov. 5."

THE EDUCATION QUESTION IN SCOTLAND.

WITHIN the last few days two men of eminence in Scotland have been speaking on the education question. At the dinner of the directors of the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution, last Saturday evening, Lord Moncreiff (Lord Justice Clerk) made the following remarks in regard to the education question:—

I do not think the difficulties in the way of the settlement of the education question are ecclesiastical difficulties. I believe the ecclesiastical difficulties to be mere phantoms. The religious question does not stand in the way of Scottish education; there is no such difficulty presenting itself in this country. There are no mountains in the path; there are only molehills. But a great many molehills are as bad as one mountain, or rather a great deal worse. If you find the old accustomed road that you travel full of those little ridges they are apt to trip your horse. If it were a mountain you could tunnel it, or make your road round it. It was over a molehill, I think, that William III.'s horse stumbled and brought that great potentate to his end. We manage the mountain well enough; it is levelled—there is a railroad carried over it; and if the molehills can only be levelled also, there is nothing to impede the career of Scottish education. I have only one mortification in leaving public life. It is not that I have not succeeded in carrying a measure of education for this country, though that, no doubt, would have been a great and glorious achievement, which I should have been proud to have had my name connected with. It is that, with no difficulties to speak of in our way, we are going to let England get precedence of us. I am sorry that that should be the case. I trust, however, that in other hands that cause may succeed, and that after all we shall be able, not to follow, but to set the example to the sister country in the question of education.

The other speaker to whom we have referred was the Rev. Dr. Hanna, who is not only himself a distinguished minister of the Free Church, but, as the son-in-law of Dr. Chalmers and editor of his works, is in a peculiar manner the representative of some of the noblest traditions of that body. Replying to the toast of "The Clergy of all Denominations," on the same occasion, Dr. Hanna made the following declaration:—

He believed that since the time of the Reformation the clergy in Scotland had been the promoters of everything that was connected with the advancement of the intellectual condition of the people. What the clergy of Scotland would be in the future remained to a large extent unknown. The only point in which they came into connection with the general advancement of the country was that of education. They would, perhaps, excuse him for saying that he had the very strongest conviction that the clergy of all denominations would fall if they did not sever themselves completely from the common education of the country, and did not take the religious education into their own hands and leave the secular education in the hands of the community. There was prevalent a great popular delusion as to religious education. He thought the one thing the country had to do with was to teach the common people, and that by compulsory means, the common branches of education; and leave it to the churches of the different denominations to do as they pleased, and as he trusted they would energetically exert themselves to do, as to religious education. He was perfectly satisfied that the general intelligence of the country was going along with the view that they should have no denominational education in any form whatever. He had been asked to respond for the clergy of all denominations; he did so because he believed he was a clergyman of no denomination. He had brought himself out of the belief in denominationalism of Free Church or Establishment, or any other church in this country; and he looked forward to the time when the clergy should give themselves to the one single thing they had to do with—the spiritual instruction of the people. As to that, he hoped there would be deeper and stronger impressions regarding the great truths they had as clergymen to deal with, and that they would have wider and broader sympathies with the whole mass of the population.

THE BISHOPRIC OF EXETER.—The Dean and Chapter met on Wednesday morning to elect a Bishop in pursuance of her Majesty's *congé d'élire*. The threatened opposition to Dr. Temple was manifested, but without effect. On the votes being taken it appeared that thirteen were given for Dr. Temple and six against him. Dr. Temple was, therefore, declared duly elected. The Chapter deliberated only about half an hour. Our correspondent telegraphs that there was a full congregation in the cathedral to hear the result, and that there was much excitement in the city.

"POOR CLERKS."—The magistrates of Exeter had before them last Saturday a case of embezzlement by a clerk named Algie, in the employ of Messrs. Gibbs, Edmonds, and Co., commission agents of that city. The defalcations were said to amount to £90. The defendant, who is twenty years of age, had filled his situation about three years. He acted as chief clerk, and received and paid all the cash of the firm. Thousands of pounds must have passed through his hands. For all this he had, it is said, the paltry pittance of 7s. weekly. His successor, it was said, had likewise defrauded his employers. The Bench committed the prisoner for trial at the quarter sessions, accepting £200 bail. One of the witnesses was a young man named Morris, who had acted as collector for the firm, and whose salary was stated to be half-a-crown weekly.

TRANSIT OF CATTLE BY RAIL.—Miss Bardett Counts, acting upon a suggestion made by Mr. Reid, of Granton, near Edinburgh, has solved the question as to the best method of conveying cattle by rail. For some years Mr. Reid has devoted his attention to the improvement of the ordinary cattle-truck; and Miss Counts recently gave orders for the construction of ten of that gentleman's most recently patented cattle-waggons. The improvements consist in the addition of a trough and hay-rack, which cross the waggon in the centre; the separation of the animals by wooden partitions; and protection from cold winds is ensured by the waggon being closed at the sides and top. Upon the roof is a water-tank, from which the water flows into the trough. The cattle stand face to face, and there is room for six when the partitions are in their places, and for eight when they are removed. Mr. Reid, by direction of Miss Counts, purchased five black heifers in Edinburgh market for conveyance to London. These animals had been taken from grass and conveyed in the usual cattle-truck one hundred miles to Edinburgh. They were placed in Reid's truck at 4.30 p.m. on Saturday last, and left the Waverley goods station of the North British Railway at 8.30 p.m. the same night. At Carlisle the truck passed on to the Great Northern line; at Ingleton it was transferred to the Midland; and it reached London at 2.20 a.m. on Monday morning. The cattle never left the truck from 4.30 p.m. on Saturday until 6.30 a.m. on Monday, when they were taken out and driven to the Islington Market. At starting there were forty-two gallons of water in the tank which is fitted to the truck, and the whole of it was consumed by seven o'clock on Sunday night before reaching Trent. At that station twelve more gallons were run into the water-troughs, which were drunk before the train started. No more was given until reaching London, when the heifers drank about seven gallons. Of hay the animals ate nine stone and three quarters, ten stone having been placed in the rack at starting; and, in addition to the hay, three stone of oatmeal was consumed with the water. The cost of this food was 10s. for hay and 6s. for oatmeal; and the fine appearance of the beasts was the subject of general comment in the market. There was a spirited competition for the beasts, which were ultimately purchased by Mr. Selmes, of Wandsworth, at about £1 per head above other beasts of a like class and weight.

ANOTHER "SCENE" IN THE ST. PANCRAS BEAR-GARDEN.—At the weekly meeting of the St. Pancras guardians, on Tuesday—Mr. Ross, chairman, presiding—a letter was read from Mr. Watson, the vice-chairman of the board (who was present), resigning his seat; but, prior to its being read, Mr. Watson rose and begged permission to address the board with a view to its withdrawal. It was, however, decided that the letter should be first read; and it stated that he had been induced to resign in consequence of the vile language to which he had been subjected from Mr. Robertson, chairman of the visiting committee, and he felt he could no longer remain a member of the same board with Mr. Robertson. Mr. Watson said, much against his own feelings, he had been induced by a number of ratepayers to withdraw his resignation. (Mr. Watkins: Which we don't mean to allow you to do.) Mr. North moved and Mr. Nokes seconded the acceptance of the resignation, amidst the protests of Mr. Watson. Mr. Watkins charged Mr. Watson with having already published his resignation, with his reasons for it, in the papers; and, in the course of a strong attack upon that gentleman, stated that he had presided while in a state of intoxication, and said it was an insult and a degradation to the board and the ratepayers for him longer to remain a member. Mr. Watson indignantly denounced these statements as infamous falsehoods. A scene of almost indistinguishable confusion now ensued. Mr. Watson continued to address the board, when several members declared, as he had resigned, he had no *locus standi* there. The chairman ruled that, as Mr. Watson's resignation had not been accepted by the Poor-Law Board, he had a right to be heard as a member. Mr. Watson again attempted to speak, but his right was still hotly contested, and Mr. Woodwell declared he was present at the visiting committee, and Mr. Robertson had not used offensive language to Mr. Watson. Mr. Smith (Mr. Robertson's colleague as representative for No. 8 ward) was also present, and said Mr. Robertson did use most offensive language to Mr. Watson. Mr. Richardson (the last new member) said he also was present, and left because he thought there was going to be a fight. Mr. Watson again rose, when Mr. North insisted on the chairman putting the resolution in defiance of Mr. Watson's protests, accepting his resignation, and it was carried. Mr. Watson again rose to address the board, when Mr. North moved, and Mr. Nokes seconded, the next business, which was carried. The medical officer's statements as to the overcrowded state of the workhouse were repudiated in a report from the acting master (Mr. Goodson), who was elected master for three months. Mr. Fildew (the relieving officer of Rotherhithe) was elected clerk to the guardians in the room of Mr. Moore, resigned; and after other business the board broke up.

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